

THE TIMES 1785-1985 Tomorrow

Princely power
The Times profile of the Aga Khan
Peking rock
Wham! manager sums up the group's China concert
Bedside reading
A new edition of The Oxford Companion to English Literature
Into Europe
Liverpool defend a four-goal lead in Athens

Portfolio

There is £4,000 to be won in today's Times Portfolio competition, double the usual daily prize of £2,000 because no-one won yesterday. Portfolio list page 18; how to play, information service, back page.

Envoys risk expulsion over parking

Foreign diplomats who refuse to pay parking fines risk being sent home under new measures being introduced by the Foreign Office next week. A stricter code of practice is also to be applied to officials and their families who commit serious offences and then shelter behind diplomatic immunity.

Olympic battle

London, Birmingham, and Manchester are competing to be Britain's proposed site for the 1992 Olympic Games, to challenge other countries applicants.

Hanoi blow

Vietnam has said it will not free re-education camp inmates to enable them to go to the US, a move likely to blight prospects of diplomatic ties with Washington.

Geneva hope

The first round of the US-Soviet nuclear arms control talks in Geneva ended with "increased understanding of one another's positions," according to the Americans.

'£3 bn' on rates

A policy change by the Government meant that ratepayers had to pay an extra £3 billion on rates last year, an official report said yesterday.

Princess fourth

Princess Anne, riding her bay colt, Against the Grain, finished in fourth place when she made her flat racing debut at Epsom.

Pets danger

An inquest into the death of a baby savaged by the family terrier was told that dogs can feel jealousy when a baby arrives.

Holiday deal

Intasun Leisure is buying Global Holidays from Great Universal Stores for about £5 million, posing a threat to Thomson Holidays position as market leader.

SPECIAL REPORT

Training for jobs in the 1980s brings in the classroom. The new approach is analysed in a three-page Special Report on Careers.

Leaders page 13

Letters: On Employment Institute, from Mr T. Balory, MP; customs changes, from Mr G. A. Brown.

Leading articles: Financial services: Vienna Convention; Chelsea's electric fence.

Features, pages 10-12: West weakened by self-hate, by Lord Bauer; Labour reselection: the left declines to pick a fight; the toll on party political broadcasts; The playwright and the abbess: letters from a Benedictine nun; Cigarettes, last in a series.

Classified, 25-30.

Property: La crème de la crème. Obituary, page 14.

Sir Thomas Parry, His Hon Sir Owen Temple-Morris.

Hope News 2-4; Law Report 24; Overseas 5-7; Parliament 4; Arts 8; Property 28, 29; Science 14; Sport 22-24; Business 18-21; TV & Radio 31; Court 32; Theatres, etc 31; Crosswords 10, 32; Weather 32; Diary 12.

Labour MP named as UK head of Russian-led group

By Michael Horsnell

A Conservative MP yesterday named a Labour MP as the leader in Britain of a Russian front organization dedicated to subversion of the free world. Lord Orr-Ewing told the House of Lords in a debate on British relations with the Soviet Union that Mr James Lamond, MP for Oldham Central, is the British vice-president of the World Peace Council.

Claiming that the Russians work through 13 international front organizations to create dissent in the free world, he named Mr Alfred Lomas, MEP, deputy leader of the Labour group in Europe, as another member of the WPC as well as four further unnamed Labour MPs.

The former Conservative Minister for Defence also listed leading British trades unionists as members.

He said: "The message to Russia from this debate is: your sincerity would be less suspect if you stopped training people from the free world to create dissent in their own countries and to destroy their own institutions. The message to Britons is: study the form of those who seek your votes."

The 13 organizations Lord Orr-Ewing listed were: The World Federation of Trade Unions, now based in Prague; the World Federation of Democratic Youth, based in Budapest; the International Union of Students; the International Association of Democratic Lawyers; the Women's Inter-

national Democratic Federation; the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Association; the International Organisation of Journalists; the International Federation of Resistance Fighters; the World Federation of Scientific Workers; the International Institute for Peace, founded as a front for the World Peace Council; the Christian

Parliament Lord Bauer 4
Lord Orr-Ewing 12

Peace Conference; the International Radio and Television Organisation; and the World Peace Council.

These were all Soviet-inspired and subsidized, and each of them spawned dozens of others which contrived in sometimes obscure ways to fool many worthy folk, Lord Orr-Ewing said.

In 1979, the most recent year for which figures are obtainable, the Russians spent \$63 million on international organizations of which \$45 million was on the peace organizations.

Until the Labour Party abolished its prescribed list in 1973, it was impossible even to be a member of that once "great and honourable party" if membership of the WPC was held, Lord Orr-Ewing said.

The British end of the WPC is called the British Peace Assembly and its secretary, Ms Jean Pavell, is a communist. Its president is Mr Lamond, MP.

And its monthly newsletter is edited by Mr Gordon Schaffer, a holder of the Lenin Peace Prize. The magazine consistently attacks Nato and the United States while praising Soviet initiatives in international affairs.

Lord Orr-Ewing said one would think that the appeal of such an outfit to British trades unionists would be non-existent. That was not true of their leaders, since several TUC leaders were concerned.

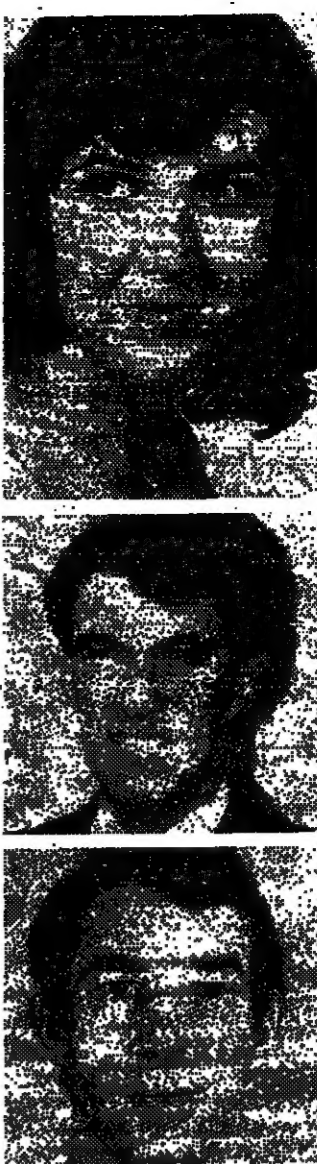
"Among its sponsors, the British Peace Assembly lists: Mr Ray Buckton of ASLEF, Mr Bill Keys of SOGAT, Mr Ken Brett of the AUEW, Mr Ken Gill of AUEW (Tass), Mr Jim Slater of the Seamen's Union, and Mr Alex Kitson of the TGWU, who is also a member of the World Peace Council," Lord Orr-Ewing also named Mr Ron Todd, general-elect of the TGWU, as a delegate to the World Peace Council's "notoriously propagandist" Prague peace assembly in 1983.

The World Peace Council had floated over the decision of the finance and general purposes committee of the TGWU to affiliate "the union with the British Peace Assembly without consulting its 1.5 million members, in August 1984."

"This British pact is pledged by its constitution to support the peace initiative of the Kremlin's World Peace Council," Lord Orr-Ewing said. "It Continued on back page, col 1"



The Russians: Lieutenant-Colonel Cherkasov (top) with his family at Heathrow on the way home; and Captain Viktor Zaikin (left) and Mr Oleg Belaventsev



The Britons: Miss Robson; Captain Marshall (centre); Lieut-Comm Littleboy

Row over Howe spy expulsions

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, was accused yesterday of mishandling the expulsion of five Soviet spies from Britain by attempting to make a deal in which the Government publicized two of the expulsions and allowed the other Russians to go quietly.

He was criticised in the Commons by Mr Denis Healey, Shadow Foreign Secretary, and Mr James Callaghan, the former prime minister, for not dealing with all the expulsions in the same way, and for proceeding in a manner which was difficult for the opposition and the Russians to understand.

Although announcing last Thursday that two officials were being expelled, the Government privately told the Russians the other three could go quietly if no action were taken against British diplomats. Moscow declined the offer and on Monday announced the expulsion of three Britons, which Sir Geoffrey told the Commons yesterday, was "wholly unwarranted."

Mr Healey said Sir Geoffrey and his colleagues had been misled and that the expulsions had been treated the same way. The Government might have got an acceptable response.

Mr Callaghan asked why, if Sir Geoffrey wanted to safeguard security, minimize damage to Anglo-Soviet relations and protect the British community in Moscow, he had given any publicity to the expulsions at all.

Sir Geoffrey said it was necessary to demonstrate that such activities could not be tolerated.

The Foreign Office yesterday said it still hoped Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, would accept Sir Geoffrey's invitation to visit Britain, possibly next month (Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes).

And officials in Whitehall are also still considering the Soviet invitation for a British delegation to take part in Moscow's V-E day 40th anniversary celebrations.

So, while both sides snarled at each other over the charges and counter-charges of spying, it seemed rather like business as usual.

Miss Carol Robson, one of the Britons being expelled by Moscow, telephoned her parents in Cardiff to reassure them she had "done nothing wrong".

Parliament, page 4

Owen triumphs in Commons skirmish

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Left-wing Labour MPs yesterday tried to prevent Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, from opening a Commons debate from his accustomed place.

But the skirmish, which was not sanctioned by the Labour Front Bench, left Dr Owen unmarked; and by the end of the day, the Social Democrats appeared to have made a small but potentially useful gain, at the expense of the Labour Party and to the chagrin of its leaders.

The occasion was one of the rare days when the Alliance parties are allowed, by courtesy of Labour, to choose the topic for debate. Dr Owen was to open it by moving a resolution urging the Government to amend the Trade Union Act 1984, to require postal voting, with independent scrutineers, in almost all important trade union ballots.

The Labour left has equal disquiet for Dr Owen and for what it considers are his party's anti-trade union views. Before the debate began they packed the front bench below the gangway, to deny him his usual place.

If they hoped to push him to the rear, they misjudged. Dr Owen's tactical sense, not mention his self-esteem, he

moved instead to the Opposition dispatch box, by convention the preserve of the main Opposition party, and offered to speak from there.

He was pushed away by an indignant Mr John Prescott, Labour's employment spokesman. Then came more than half an hour of objections from Labour MPs and appeals for order from Mr Harold Walker, the Deputy Speaker.

As the demonstration continued, the Labour whips became more uneasy and the other parties increasingly contemptuous.

Dr Owen's lieutenant, Mr Ian Wigglesworth, SDP MP for Stockton South, complained that the "bully boys and thugs" of the Labour Party were trying to stop free speech.

Sir Anthony Kershaw, Conservative MP for Stroud, spoke of "a loutish and vulgar display" by Labour to prevent free speech.

Mr Walker said the House was doing itself no credit; and although he said that no one had any right to any particular Commons place, except by convention, he begged the Labour ranks to make room for Dr Owen.

In the end Mr Walker had to

Continued on back page, col 2

Arms ban outburst by Soviet leader

From Richard Owen
Moscow

At a Central Committee meeting yesterday which placed his stamp firmly on the Kremlin after only six weeks in power, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev roundly accused the United States of not trying to seek agreement with Russia during the first round of the Geneva arms talks, which ended yesterday.

Mr Gorbachev also called for revolutionary changes in the Soviet economy and has promoted three of his staunchest allies into the Politburo, including the head of the KGB, Viktor Chebrikov.

The Central Committee plenum - the first to be held since Mr Gorbachev, aged 54, succeeded Constantine Chernenko - also appointed Marshal Sergei Sokolov, the Defence Minister, as a candidate. Politburo member, Marshal Sokolov took over from the late Marshal Ustinov last December but is a career soldier rather than a party man.

By... him Mr Gorbachev has continued the post-1973 practice of placing the military in the top party body. In his report to the plenum Mr Gorbachev said he would "spare no effort for the Soviet armed forces to have everything they need to defend our homeland."

The three new full Politburo members are General Chebrikov, aged 62, Mr Yegor Ligachev, aged 64, and Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, aged 55. Mr Ligachev and Mr Ryzhkov have both been moved straight into the Politburo from the Secretariat without intervening candidate membership. Mr Ligachev, a reform-minded disciplinarian, has been in charge of party personnel and has overseen Mr Gorbachev's administrative shake-up. Mr Ryzhkov, seen as an energetic technocrat, is head of the Central Committee's reorganized economic department.

In another promotion Mr Viktor Nikonov, a little known official, joins the Secretariat to supervise agriculture.

In his report to the Plenum Mr Gorbachev, who is expected to meet President Reagan at the United Nations in New York in September, said Russia was ready to improve relations with America. "But the first stage of the Geneva talks, just completed, gives grounds for saying that Washington does not seek agreement with the Soviet Union."

Mr Gorbachev said: "This is to be seen if only from the fact that it refuses to discuss preventing the arms race from spreading to space simultaneously with the question of nuclear arms limitation and reduction." That was a violation of the January framework agreement.

New Politburo faces, page 7

Princess's father was 'nominal Nazi'

By Richard Dowden

A document released yesterday reveals Princess Michael of Kent's father as a disgruntled and disloyal member of the Nazi party, and confirms that after a long conflict with it he was dismissed for disciplinary reasons in 1944.

The de-Nazification court in Bavaria did not accept Baron Gunther von Reibnitz's appeal for exoneration, but placed him in the category of non-accused person, saying he was only a "nominal party member."

The 1948 ruling of the court, released by Kensington Palace last night, stated that although the Baron's activities did not amount to active resistance, he was in conflict with the Nazis since 1934.

He only joined the Nazis because he thought they would bring economic recovery. He went well beyond normal limits in helping victims of racial oppression.

He never served with the SS as a Sturmabfuhrer, which he held as an honorary rank, with authority to give orders, merely the right to wear the uniform.

He never allowed himself to be influenced by party policies and came into conflict with a Gauleiter.

His devout Roman Catholic attitude incurred the displeasure of the party.

As early as 1940 he expressed the hope that Germany would lose the war so that Nazi power could be broken.

When he was dismissed in 1944 he was drafted into the Dirlwanger special detachment, a punishment group for criminals and dissidents, but managed to take refuge in his regiment in the regular army.

The evidence has not added references to the effect that the accused should be regarded as a militarist or as having reaped any benefit. He was to be regarded as falling within the category of nominal party members since he took only a nominal part in National Socialism, and lent it only insignificant support, the document says.

The decision by the Upper Bavaria Appeal Tribunal of May 14, 1948, overruled the decision of the Moosburg Labour and Detention Camp of the previous year, which had placed him in the "less incriminated persons" category.

Baron von Reibnitz died in 1983.

Document text, page 2

Legal fees total £650,000 as BBC loses libel case

By Colin Hughes

About £650,000 of the £900,000 costs the BBC has incurred over a libel action involving a *That's Life* programme on a Harley Street slimming expert will go to barristers and solicitors.

Mr Michael Belfort QC, acting for Dr Sidney Gee, and Mr Andrew Rankin QC, for the BBC, are expected to receive about £100,000 each. Their juniors will receive about £50,000 each for attending the case over 87 court days.

The BBC's case was prepared by its in-house solicitor, Mr Rhory Robertson, and Dr Gee's by Royds Barfield, of Crane Court, London.

The solicitors' bill for Dr Gee is estimated at £350,000.

Most of the remaining costs went on preparing the case which each had to be copied 15 times, and paying about 50 witnesses expenses. One witness had to be flown first-class from the United States, and was put up in an expensive London hotel for several days. Dr Gee will also have claimed for the losses of earnings after spending nearly six months on the case.

Last March, when Dr Derek Jamson, former editor of the *Daily Star*, had to pay £75,000 costs to the BBC when he lost a libel case, the BBC was criticized for excessive expenditure by the judge.

That's Life libel, page 3



Mrs Gould: Collector of impressionist art

Mrs Gould, the widow of Mr Frank Gould, an American railway millionaire, lived in a villa outside Cannes on the French Riviera until her death two years ago, at the age of 87.

Secondly, small groups of rich collectors, museum curators and their advisers have been given special daily previews of the collection for the month before the sale.

Two new approaches have been pioneered. Most controversial is the offer of credit terms to rich collectors and institutions.

When Mr Alfred Taubman, the American financier, took over Sotheby's he promised to apply modern marketing techniques to the art business. This is his first big campaign backed by careful strategic planning.

Parties, mainly champagne receptions, are the front line of attack.

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Managers' pay rises twice those of manual workers

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Managers' salaries rose by more than 5 per cent last year after inflation - almost twice the average wage rise of manual workers. The gap is expected to widen further this year after high company profits.

The British Institute of Management's annual national remuneration survey, published yesterday, which also discloses big increases in bonus payments to managers and directors, will come as an embarrassment to the Government, which is attempting to hold down a public sector wage rises.

The institute said: "This year the economy is expected to recover some of the ground lost

through the miners' strike. On past evidence this will produce significant upward pressure on wages. It is questionable whether company negotiators will feel the climate is right for them to achieve the target set by the Government of restricting wage growth to 4 per cent."

It also predicted that there could be a swing back towards provision of lucrative fringe benefits for managers after the changes in National Insurance announced in the Budget. It is encouraging companies to allow senior executives to "moonlight" by taking part-time, self-employed work and avoid the higher insurance burden.

The survey, covering 19,203

individuals in 342 companies, shows that the average basic salary for managers last year was £16,892 and for directors £25,160. That represents an average increase of 10.6 per cent compared with the previous year, falling to 5.1 per cent after tax. National Insurance and inflation adjustment.

Mr Roy Close, retiring director-general of the institute, said: "For the first time in many years managers' net real pay has improved at a better rate than did national earnings. To a large extent this reflects the increased profitability of many companies."

Despite the increases, the

institute says that middle managers in Britain remain worse off than almost all of their counterparts in other European countries.

Gross salaries in the new survey range from a top average for chief executives of companies with turnover of more than 500 million of nearly £93,000, to little more than £10,859 for the lower rung of middle management.

Average gross salaries in companies with sales of less than £20 million range from £30,833 for chief executives to £10,859 at the bottom of the scale.

Almost 44 per cent of managers receive a bonus,

which last year averaged £1,486, an increase in cash terms of 22 per cent on the previous year. For directors, bonus payments averaged £5,548, up by 26 per cent, and most received by 41 per cent.

Almost 87 per cent of directors' bonuses were based on company performance or a combination with personal performance. Fifteen per cent of managers' bonuses were related to personal performance or a mixture, and these averaged £1,984.

National Management Salary Survey 1985: Remuneration Economics Survey House, 51, Portland Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2SH. (Survey £110; review £70).

Table, page 2

NATURE WALKS. BUSINESS RUNS.

Since Thomas Cook decided to move to Peterborough in 1973, their annual pre-tax profits have increased from £3 million to £11 million.

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Rates increases blamed on policy change by Government

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

A policy change by the Government in 1981 cost ratepayers an extra £3,000 million on their rates last year, according to Sir Gordon Downey, the Comptroller and Auditor General.

In an official report, released yesterday, on the Rate Support Grant system, he said: "One of the main purposes of central government's financial support of local authorities has always been to transfer part of the cost of providing local authority services from rates on to the wider and more equitable range of national taxes."

"This was confirmed as recently as December 1981. Since then the emphasis in government policy has been more on enhancing local authority accountability by reducing the proportionate amount of government support."

Because of that change of policy, government support was cut from 61 per cent in 1980-81 to 48.3 per cent in 1984-85, increasing the ratepayers' burden by "almost a third" or about £3 billion in cash terms for 1984-85.

Sir Gordon said: "Over the same period the average ratepayers rose from 100.1p to 160.1p, an increase of 60 per cent, and for non-domestic ratepayers from 117.5p to 178.7p, an increase of 52 per cent."

"These increases can, therefore, be attributed more to the reduction in the proportion of government grant than to increases in local authority spending."

Sir Gordon said that local accountability had in fact been diminished because of ambiguities and confusions in a system which was so complex that many officers and members of local authorities had abandoned the attempt to fully understand it.

The Government had also unduly increased the business rate while it was expressing concern "about the heavy burdens which local rates imposed on business and commerce, which have no voting power and only limited influence on local rating decisions," he said.

The Government will undoubtedly be embarrassed by the verdict of Sir Gordon's report, Mr Jack Straw, an Opposition spokesman, said last night that it would be used as one of Labour's weapons in the county council election campaign.

"It proves beyond doubt our claim that it is the Government that is to blame for rate rises," he said.

Operation of the Rate Support Grant System (National Audit Office Stationery Office, £4.50).

Union officials against new leadership vote

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

A number of senior officials in the Transport and General Workers' Union believe tomorrow's emergency meeting of the union executive should not sanction a fresh leadership ballot, even if one is requested by Mr Ron Todd, the general secretary elect, who won last year's election.

The executive has been called into session to consider a letter from Mr Todd currently the TGWU national organizer, which is widely thought to call for a new vote to lift the cloud of suspicion hanging over the union. Mr Todd has asked to be allowed to explain the letter to the executive.

But last night officials from both the left and right argued strongly that there should be a re-run of the election because a new vote would, they said, be bowing to a media campaign.

Tomorrow's meeting will probably debate a motion from the moderate northern region which calls on the union to resist attempts to force another election for the general secretary's job, which Mr Moss Evans is due to vacate in July. Voting in the region, based on Newcastle, was 2-1 in favour of

the defeated candidate Mr George Wright.

It was being suggested by officials that, at the very least, the union should await the outcome of the investigations into the 29 complaints sent to Transport House concerning the conduct of the election, won by Mr Todd by the comparatively narrow margin of 45,000 votes.

There are no clear indications of how the vote on a new election would go.

Supporters of Mr Todd felt that if he had the executive he would not be able to function properly as general secretary without the allegations being completely cleared up, the executive would find it very difficult to reject a new vote.

Other influential figures in the union were said to be in favour of a new vote, including Mr Jack Jones, the former general secretary.

Mr Evans has said that he will postpone his retirement in July, when he will be 60, to see the controversy resolved.

Mr Wright, who last week called for a new vote to dispel the uncertainty, was earlier this week supported by Mr Neil Kinnoch, leader of the Labour Party.

IRA expels leading member

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Disagreements within the ranks of the Provisional IRA and Sinn Féin over the "armistice and ballot box" approach has led to the dropping of a prominent member of the ruling army council just as its campaign for next month's local government elections.

Unless the disagreements are contained the unhappiness within the Provisional IRA about future strategy could lead to a split in ranks. The divisions already threaten to hamper the political wing's electoral campaign.

Hard line members have been growing increasingly disillusioned with the present leadership. It is particularly critical of the high profile

emphasis on political work and the lack of military activity especially in Belfast where last year the Provisional IRA murdered four people including a Roman Catholic who they alleged was involved in organized crime.

There is also opposition to the amount of money that is required to finance Sinn Féin's electioneering and involvement in community politics including the expense of running a chain of advice centres across the province.

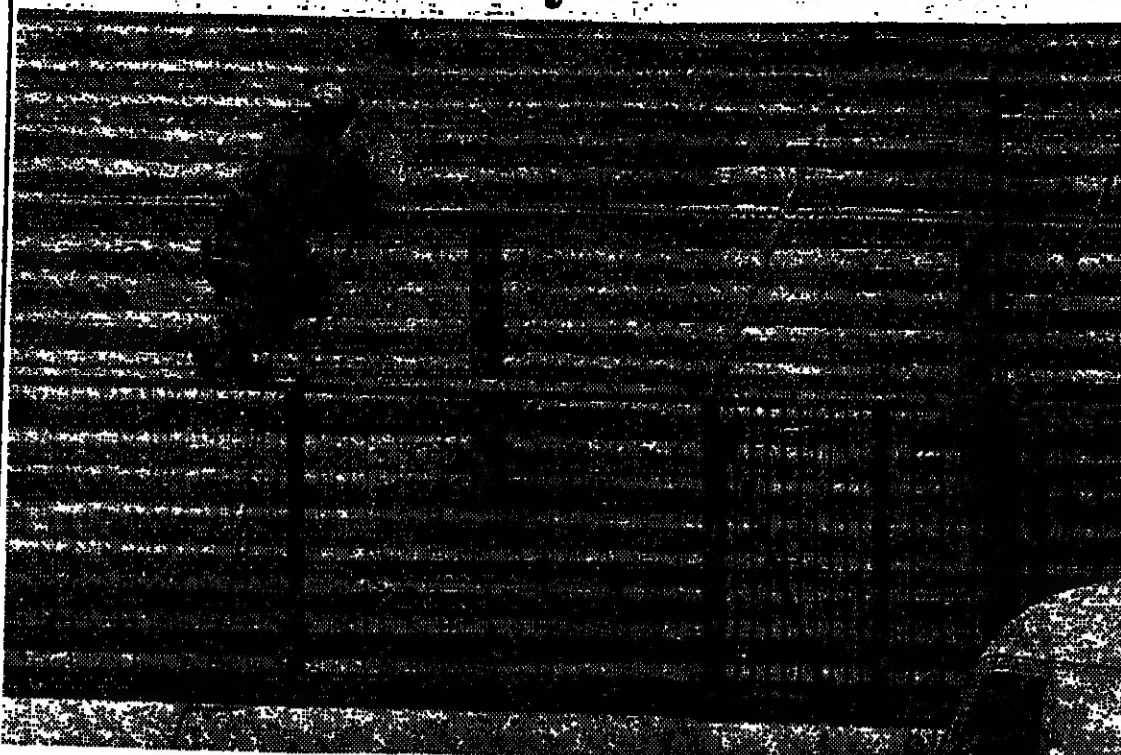
Mr Ivor Malachy Bell, aged 47, the man dropped from the army council has considerable experience in Provisional circles. He and his supporters have opposed the present strategy. The speed with which he has

been ousted is believed to be an attempt to minimize the risk of growing dissent within the Provisional ranks. It is understood they have been given a warning that if they join any other organization or begin a rival movement they will be shot.

The New York policemen who led a demonstration in support of the IRA last summer during a trip to Ireland are planning to do the same again.

Press conferences are to be held simultaneously in New York and Dublin within the next 10 days to announce plans for the visit in August by the Emerald Society's Pipe and Drums Band. The band consists mainly of New York City policemen.

Decision day for Chelsea over electric fence



Chelsea Football Club is expected to announce today whether the current in its electric fence (above) will be switched on to keep supporters in their place at Saturday's match with Tottenham Hotspur.

The club's chairman, Mr Ken Bates, who has been taking legal advice, will announce the outcome of the discussions at noon when he has planned publicly to unveil the fence.

The 11ft fence carrying a 12-volt electric charge has been installed and is fully operational at Chelsea's

Stamford Bridge ground, Miss Sheila Marsden, club secretary, confirmed yesterday.

But the Greater London Council has warned Chelsea that if it continues with its plans without seeking planning permission, the council will apply for a High Court injunction to have the ground closed.

Alterations to the perimeter fence must comply with the Safety at Sports Grounds Act 1975 and would require an amendment to the ground's general safety certificate.

Schedule 2 of the certificate, issued to all sports grounds, provides that: "Any alteration or addition to a stadium, whether permanent or temporary, shall not be made except with the prior consent of the council."

Responsibility for overseeing crowd control arrangements was vested in local authorities after a stairway at Ibrox Stadium, home of Glasgow Rangers, collapsed in 1971 killing 66 supporters.

Leading article, page 13 (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Newspapers dismiss printers

By Colin Hughes

The Kent Messenger Group, which publishes 12 weekly newspapers and one local daily, yesterday dismissed 144 print workers belonging to the National Graphical Association.

The dismissal move is the latest in a growing number of similar disputes at local newspaper centres around the country over new technology which heralds far-reaching changes in working practices and printing job losses.

The management decided to issue notices to all NGA members after the union chapel refused to work last week, leading to none of the 500,000 combined group circulation being printed.

Mr Edwin Borman, group managing director, said talks were close to agreement on using the £400,000 machinery for computer typesetting classified advertisements. The union, however, last week gave management one hour to concede remaining points at issue.

"Until then we had accepted that use of the machinery would be suspended until agreement was reached, but the union started asking us physically to remove the equipment". After a weekend of sitting-in by print workers, and the loss of £200,000 in revenue from lost sales, the management decided to dismiss the printers.

The Kent dispute is being seen as arising from a dispute at the Express and Star, Wolverhampton, where the management won a High Court injunction against the NGA preventing secondary action.

Gallery may have to charge

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The National Gallery will introduce admission charges if government spending cuts continue to threaten its ability to make purchases in the world art market.

The gallery has been opposed to admission charges for many years but in its triennial report published yesterday, the retiring chairman, Lord Annan, said: "If we find that we become a dead gallery, unable to buy any painting of importance in the future, I feel the trustees may reconsider."

Lord Annan rejected the idea of a voluntary admission charge, at present being considered by the Victoria and Albert Museum. Such a scheme has been introduced at New York's Metropolitan Museum where the suggested entrance fee is \$4 (about £3). "The trustees don't very much like this particular form of extracting money from the public. Either you charge, or it is free."

According to the gallery's figures if it charged an average

of £1 but consequently lost 10 per cent of its 1984 entrance figure of nearly three million it would raise more than 2.6 million. That figure almost equals its present annual purchase grant from the Office of Arts and Libraries.

The gallery's trustees also bitterly criticized the level of its present purchase grant which meant, it said, that the body could no longer compete on the world market for paintings.

The trustees report says: "The announcement by Lord Gower (the Arts Minister) that the purchase grant for 1985/86 would be reduced from £3.3 million to £2.75 million is a remarkable example of the truth of the Pauline injunction that 'whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth'. The cut amounts to 16.67 per cent but in real terms is twice as large."

The increasing number of purchases by American institutions and individuals has led to paintings being usually

valued in dollars, the gallery says.

"In dollar terms our grant is being reduced by no less than 33.4 per cent, and that today is the real measure of the reduction we are obliged to accept. Our ability therefore to acquire paintings for the nation's perpetuity will be undermined on an unprecedented scale."

Lord Annan said that the gallery had now to search for benefactors such as the Sainsbury family who are to pay for its new extension, to fund new acquisitions.

The report calls for the formation of a committee by Lord Gower to consider improvements to the present tax system to help the funding of museums and galleries.

It says: "The in-lieu arrangements, whereby owners of works of art offer them to the nation in lieu of a capital tax liability, are at present particularly disadvantageous."

Crowds join docklands home queue

By David Lister, The Times Educational Supplement

A block of flats in Wapping in London's docklands, which for two years was derelict and occupied by squatters, yesterday had nearly 50 people queuing to claim the newly refurbished maisonettes when they go on the market on Saturday.

The first people to reserve their home started the queue on Sunday, and it, or rather when, the queue reaches 49 people who are qualified and able to buy one of the maisonettes, the developers, Regalair, will end their cold vigil and allow them to complete the formalities in comfort.

The reason for the attraction of this development is twofold: the general demand for property in the docklands area; and the discounted price for the two-bedroom maisonettes - £26,500 - arranged for people nominated from the Tower Hamlets council waiting list.

A further 115 similar maisonettes in the same development, offered at £43,000, go on sale on the open market in 10 days' time.

Regalair, which won the development in open tender, had to provide 30 per cent of the units for Tower Hamlets nominees at the lower price



Home seeker: A woman in the docklands queue.

under an agreement with the London Docklands Development Corporation.

About 500 people applied, some of whom do not qualify, but have lived in the Wapping area.

Those who buy at £26,500 but leave after a year will be able to take only 25 per cent of the profit, rising to 50 per cent after three years, 75 per cent after four years.

Teachers' panel rejects informal pay talks

By David Lister, The Times Educational Supplement

The teachers' pay dispute intensified last night when the largest teachers' union, the National Union of Teachers, rejected an offer by the employers to hold informal talks to try to settle the dispute.

The NUT used its majority on the teachers' panel, which negotiates for teachers on pay in the Burnham Committee, to outvote the other teacher unions, all of which were keen to have informal talks.

Leaders of the NUT said at the private meeting of the panel that the employers were "bluffing" and mounting a public relations exercise.

It is, however, significant that in the formal Burnham committee only Mr Fred Jarvis the NUT's general secretary is allowed to speak for the teachers. In any informal talks, all the other teachers' unions would have been able to make their views known.

Other union leaders are convinced this played an important part in the NUT's decision that the teachers' side would have nothing to do with informal talks.

Mr Nigel De Gruchy, deputy general secretary of the second largest union, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers

said last night he was "astonished that the NUT had locked shut a door that seemed to be opening" and added that the decision not to have talks about talks would only prolong the dispute.

Mr Giles Radice, Labour's education spokesman, was critical of the NUT decision yesterday. He believed that talks should begin as "soon as possible, be they formal or informal."

The teachers are claiming a flat-rate rise of £1,200, equal to 12.5 per cent. The employers have offered 4 per cent.

A call for new investment in education was made yesterday in a report by the Trade Union Research Unit at Ruskin College, Oxford.

Scottish secondary schools face widespread disruption today when two unions, the Educational Institute of Scotland and the Scottish Secondary Teachers' Association, stage a one-day stoppage. The Scottish teachers are pressing for an independent salary review.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, yesterday quashed hopes of extra money from the Government to settle the teachers' dispute.

Parliament, page 4

Unilever switches to coal power

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Unilever yesterday became the latest company to announce a switch from oil to coal with a £14 million project to convert its power station at Port Sunlight on Merseyside.

Unilever, a soap and detergent producer, will benefit from the Government's coal conversion scheme, which pays up to 25 per cent of the cost. The scheme was badly hit during the miners' strike, which ended five weeks ago, but since responsibility was transferred from the Department of Trade and Industry to the Department of Energy under the Coal Industry Minister, Mr David Hunt, several companies have revived conversion plans.

Unilever's decision means the coal board's western region order book for industrial supplies will exceed the million tonnes a year mark.

The region, Cumbria, Lancashire, North Wales and Staffordshire, which will supply the company with 90,000 tonnes of coal, is to launch a sales campaign aimed at large industrial companies.

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Managers' salary increases last year

	1984 survey	1985 survey		1984 survey	1985 survey
Average gross salary	43,361	25,676	Average gross salary	47,294	28,112
Deputy chief executive	40,577	24,663	Deputy chief executive	45,424	27,003
Other directors	29,848	19,732	Other directors	35,403	21,884
Senior function head	23,994	16,774	Senior function head	26,803	16,484
Function head	20,859	14,940	Function head	22,567	16,282
Senior management I	17,897	13,196	Senior management I	19,167	14,272
Senior management II	15,311	11,556	Senior management II	17,180	12,880
Middle management I	13,121	10,023	Middle management I	14,185	10,870
Middle management II	11,445	8,850	Middle management II	12,505	9,700
	Year ending Jan 1, 1984	Year ending Jan 1, 1985		Year ending Jan 1, 1984	Year ending Jan 1, 1985

TABLE BASED ON SMALLER SAMPLE THAN IN MAIN SURVEY

Three cities bid for Olympics

By Craig Seton

London, Birmingham and Manchester yesterday all staked a claim to be the British city best suited to go forward to challenge six international rivals for the right to stage the 1992 Olympic Games, which are likely to cost between £700 million and £1,000 million.

They announced they were submitting their bids to be considered by the British Olympic Association on July 12 before the name of the successful British applicant, if one is chosen, is forwarded to the International Olympic Committee to be judged in October 1986 alongside those of Barcelona, Paris, Amsterdam, Belgrade, New Delhi and Brisbane.

The hurried announcement by the three British cities indicated a sudden awareness that some of their international rivals have been preparing bids for up to two years.

London's bid is being made by the City of London Corporation because the proposed abolition of the Greater London Council, due next April, will leave the city without any other general representative authority.

Sir Alan Traill, the Lord Mayor of London, has written to the British Olympic Association submitting a preliminary bid as work gets under way to prepare a formal presentation which, presumably will include

the details about proposed financing and facilities that were lacking in yesterday's brief announcement. London staged the Olympic Games in 1908 and 1948.

The Birmingham bid will be made on behalf of a Midlands consortium including Nottingham, Leicester and Coventry. The city council is investing £110,000 in a feasibility study of the considerable facilities it would need.

In Manchester, a consortium, the Manchester Olympic Bid Committee, has been impressed during a fact-finding tour to Los Angeles which staged the 1984 Olympics through private fund-

The full text of the Upper Bavarian appeal tribunal decision, delivered on May 14, 1948, in the appeal by Prince Michael's father, Baron Gunther von Reibnitz, is as follows: Upper Bavarian Appeal Tribunal Moosburg-Dachau senate, Moosburg, May 14, 1948.

Reference number 859/48. Reference number at first instance: 9464.

Pursuant to the de-Nazification and denazification law of March 5, 1946, the Upper Bavarian appeal tribunal, Moosburg-Dachau senate, comprising:

1. Dr Alfred Lochner - president
2. Joseph Gierke - judge
3. Maria Fischer - judge

Rendered the following judgement in the written proceedings against Freiherr Gunther von Reibnitz, born on September 8, 1894, in Schönbrunn, landowner and insurance agent, of Percha near Starnberg:

1. That on appeal by the accused, the judgement of the court of the Moosburg labour and detention camp of April 24, 1947, be set aside.

2. That the accused be placed among the category "nominal party members".

3. That proceedings be stayed.
4. That the costs of both instances be borne by the state.
5. That the accused pay an administrative fee of DM50.
6. That the establishment of the value of the dispute remain reserved. (Official seal missing). The tribunal president, signed Dr Lochner.

Signed Joseph Gierke, Signed Maria Fischer. Reasons: Pursuant to the judgement of the court of the Moosburg labour and

detention camp of April 24, 1947, the accused was placed in the category of "less incriminated persons".

The accused appealed against this decision within time and in proper form. The appeal is admissible. Articles 46 and 47.

The appeal senate of Moosburg-Dachau is competent to render a judgement on the appeal: Article 29.

The public prosecutor upon application of Article 17 VIII, petitioned in by proceedings for

Doctor's libel action over 'That's Life' costs BBC more than £1m

An 87-day libel action ended yesterday with the BBC agreeing to pay £750,000 damages and costs estimated at about £1 million over a *That's Life* programme on a Harley Street slimming expert.

The costs of the action, brought by Dr Sidney Gee, aged 63, are the highest in an English court. The High Court hearing began last October.

That's Life was said to have made Dr Gee out to be "a profiteering, unscrupulous quack" who was unfit to remain in practice after allegedly prescribing drugs that nearly killed a patient.

The programme, in June 1983 featured Mrs Margaret Day, aged 46, a child care assistant, from Binfield, Berkshire.

After treatment by Dr Gee Mrs Day's weight fell by more than two stone, from just under 16 stone. She developed cardiac complications, which *That's Life* blamed on her treatment.

Dr Gee of Chester Close North, Regents Park, north London, denied prescribing dangerous amounts of drugs or acting unlawfully, improperly or in breach of the rules of his profession.

He denied an allegation of prescribing a "cocktail of drugs" and claimed that the programme's presenter, Esther Rantzen, had "put the spotlight" by setting her programme up as a self-appointed court and indulging in character assassination.

Yesterday, his counsel, Mr Michael Beloff, QC, told Lord Justice Croom-Johnson that the BBC acknowledged that it was supplied with information

which was incorrect in respect of Mrs Day and recognized that the programme dealt inadequately with complex issues.

Mr Beloff said that the BBC regretted that, in the course of preparing the programme their journalists "obtained entry to his surgery and interviewed him to the distress of Dr Gee, his staff and his patient."

The agreed damages were awarded against the BBC, Miss Rantzen and two members of the *That's Life* team, a reporter, Mr Gavin Campbell, and its editor, Mr Gordon Watts.

Mr Andrew Rankin, QC, their counsel said all parties were happy that a settlement had been reached. "If the case had gone on it could have lasted until the end of the year, thereby adding to costs which have already reached enormous and burdensome proportions."

A term of the settlement was that neither side would make any out-of-court comments.

Dr Gee, who in addition to his Harley Street practice, has a surgery in Victoria Street, Rochester, Kent, was in court throughout the hearing.

The trial began with a jury, but it was discharged when the hearing, which was largely taken up with detailed medical evidence, after a procedural irregularity.

The case was also dogged by ill-health. Mr Rankin began the case in a wheelchair because of a leg complaint, the BBC's solicitor appeared on crutches after a leg operation, the judge caught influenza, a juror was taken ill and the court usher collapsed in court, halting the day's session.

Also, Judge Sir David Croom-Johnson, aged 70, has not been able to take up his new position of a Lord Justice of Appeal for five months.

The trial fell 14 days short of the record length when March 1981 by the unsuccessful libel case brought against the *Daily Mail* by the Moonies religious sect. (Costs then were £750,000.)

But a second libel action brought by Dr Gee against Mrs Day's general practitioner, Dr Clemency Mitchell, from Reading, Berkshire, and a cardiac specialist, Dr Roger Blackwood, from Windsor, Berkshire, which has been running in parallel, will continue today.



Dr Sidney Gee yesterday and Esther Rantzen.

Snowdonia view is saved

By John Young

About 300 acres on the mainland side of the Menai Strait, including one-and-a-half miles of coastline, have been acquired by the National Trust, it was announced yesterday.

The acquisition, safeguards some of the most spectacular views in Britain: that of Snowdonia from Plas Newydd, the former home of the Angles family, which is owned by the trust although the present marquis lives there.

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of the launching of Enterprise Neptune, the campaign to safeguard the most important stretches of Britain's remaining unspoilt coastline for the nation.

The trust is about half-way to its target of 900 miles in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and Lord Gibson, its chairman, chose yesterday to relaunch the campaign.

Scotland is the responsibility of a separate trust.

The trust is particularly concerned to prevent further development on the coasts of Northumbria, North Yorkshire, East Anglia and Wales.

It is also engaged in a battle with British Petroleum over the threat to Poole harbour and the Isle of Purbeck in Dorset, from the expansion of the Wytch Farm oilfield.

Law on housekeeping 'profit' may change

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Proposals to end sexual discrimination over ownership of housekeeping allowances and things bought with them are made by the Law Commission today.

At present, if a husband makes a housekeeping allowance to his wife, any savings she makes from it and anything bought with them belong to her both in equal shares, according to the Married Women's Property Act, 1964.

But if an allowance is made by the wife to the husband, there are some old cases which say this belongs to the husband alone.

Under the commission's proposals, money made available by one spouse to another for their joint purposes, including money pooled, would belong to them both equally.

The changes reflect the altered status of women. Wives may sometimes earn more than their husbands, for example a doctor married to a clergyman. Or if a husband, such as a miner on strike, loses pay, he may depend on his working wife.

In 1961 only 29.7 per cent of all married women were in a paid job or looking for one, whereas in 1981 the figure was 49.3 per cent.

The Act says nothing about the allowance or anything bought for housekeeping, which it does not define. But goods bought with money left over

from housekeeping allowances are jointly owned. So is any money left in the wife's account.

The husband is discriminated against in the case of gifts. If he pays for property which is put in his wife's name, it is usually presumed that he intended to make a gift. But if a wife pays for property in her husband's name, it is usually presumed that she did not intend a gift.

In reviewing the law governing the transfer of money between spouses, the commission makes proposals for consultation which would apply only where a couple had not made their own agreement. They do not cover co-habitees. The commission hopes that the changes will reflect what most couples might in any case expect the law to be.

It would depend on the purpose for which the money is paid. Where funds were made available by one spouse directly or indirectly for the joint purposes of the couple, that money and any property acquired with it would be owned equally, unless there was agreement to the contrary. The new proposal would cover payment of instalments towards the purchase of any property.

Transfer of Money between Spouses - the Married Women's Property Act 1964. (Law Commission Working Paper 90: Stationery Office, £1.75.)

Tachograph convicts sex attacker

James Temple, aged 26, a van driver of Willesden, north-west London, was convicted at Windsor Crown Court yesterday of attempted rape, robbery, and assault on the evidence of his delivery van's tachograph.

The police received reports that his van had been seen on the day of the assault in August last year speeding away from a lay-by on the A35 near where the assault occurred in the New Forest, near Burley, Hampshire.

His van's tachograph confirmed the date, time and duration of his stop. His victim, a West German teacher, aged 58, suffered a broken nose and 30 wounds. He also left fingerprints on a map that the woman was carrying.

The judge has asked for a psychiatric report before sentencing Temple.

Jail for attack on barrister

Mr Justice Hazan, QC, said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday: "The streets of London must once again be made safe for people to walk without being subjected to violent attacks," when he sentenced Abdel Aziz Echouafni, aged 25, a professional footballer from Morocco, to five years imprisonment for causing grievous bodily harm to a barrister.

Echouafni, who was also recommended for deportation, was studying in London and living in Chelsea when he attacked Mrs Lisa Spry-Leverson last August outside the former home of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, in Flood Street, Mrs Spry-Leverson, aged 35, was the "innocent and defenceless" victim of a cruel savage and sustained attack, the judge said.

Film ban on BBC continues

The ban on the BBC using an exclusive TV-am interview with Princess Michael of Kent was continued indefinitely by a High Court judge yesterday.

Mr Justice Walton, who last week described the pirating of the interview as "the most scandalous" breach of TV-am's copyright, continued injunctions forbidding use of the pirate film until a full trial of TV-am's claim for damages.

Police officer cleared of theft

A police inspector accused of stealing from his headquarters' social club was yesterday cleared on all charges after a four-day trial at York Crown Court.

It was alleged that a hidden video camera showed Inspector Michael Peacock, aged 46, of Studley Close, Northallerton, pocketing cigars and cash from the social club bar.

Train verdict

A verdict of death by misadventure was recorded at St Pancras coroner's court yesterday on Wayne Mitchell, aged 17, of Bowers Road, New Southgate, north London, who died after being hit by a train at Hatfield, Hertfordshire. The court was told he had been drinking heavily, and his alcohol level would have impaired his judgement.

Plea for church couple fails

By Richard Dowden

Mr. Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, has rejected an appeal by the Bishop of London, Right Rev Graham Leonard, to allow a Greek Cypriot couple who have taken sanctuary in a north London church to remain in Britain.

The couple, Mr Vassilis and Mrs Katerina Nicola, have been in the Church of St Mary, King's Cross, for 56 days.

The text of Mr Brittan's reply to the bishop was not released, by Mr George Eugeniou, of the Cypriot Advisory Service,

which is organizing the campaign, said that its tone was "courteous but firm".

The Home Secretary had ignored new evidence from Cyprus which strengthened the couple's case but gave an assurance that immigration officials would not try to force their removal from the church.

The resolution of the campaign remains strong but Mr and Mrs Nicola looked tired. Mr Nicola said: "Life in the church has not been to comfortable but it is better than the

conditions in a tent in a refugee camp in Cyprus."

The couple lost their home in the north of the island at the time of the Turkish invasion in 1974 and lived in camps before coming to Britain in 1976.

Mr Eugeniou said that the Cyprus social services had confirmed that the couple's families in the south of Cyprus would be unable to support them if they were sent back.

"The Cypriot community is very, very angry about this," he said.

Family on social security hire Rolls to go to court

A homeless family living on state benefits, until recently in a four-star hotel, will travel to the High Court in Liverpool by Rolls-Royce next week after saving the £60 car hire charge from their weekly social security payments of £230.

The McDougall family are suing Liverpool City Council for £250,000, alleging that they were illegally dispossessed of a council house. The action includes personal damages for injury and suffering.

The family, Mrs Theresa McDougall, aged 76, a cancer

victim, and her sons, Robert, aged 46, and Michael, aged 30, walked out of a suite at the city's Adelphi Hotel last month, complaining of bad conditions there.

They hired a minicab, loaded their possessions and drove to Blackpool.

A spokesman for the Department of Health and Social Security said: "We can't breathe down their necks and say: 'This is silly or extravagant.' There is a certain amount of freedom about what they do with the benefit."

Thatcher to open London centre for Muslims

By Rupert Morris

A new London landmark and a unique feature of the capital's ever more multiracial culture is to be officially opened this week by the Prime Minister.

It is the Ismaili Centre, a curious-looking mass of polished granite, opposite the Victoria and Albert Museum, in South Kensington, a place of meeting and worship for the 12,000-15,000 strong Ismaili Muslim community in London.

It will be open to the public by appointment, and later this summer will incorporate an art

gallery, which is in the final stages of building.

The Aga Khan will be alongside Mrs Margaret Thatcher at the ceremony on Wednesday, when both leading Ismailis and representatives of the local British community will also be invited.

Prince Karim Aga Khan is the 49th Imam, descended from Hazrat Ali, who was the cousin and son-in-law of the Prophet Muhammad and is recognized by the Ismailis as the first Imam, or spiritual leader.

Inquest warning on pets and babies

A veterinary surgeon told a coroner yesterday that dogs need more love and affection when a baby arrives in a family. Mr Russell Williams was speaking at the inquest on a baby who was savaged to death by a pet terrier.

Dr John Burton, the Hammersmith coroner, recorded a verdict of death by misadventure on Mary Michelle Dee aged three weeks who died at Charing Cross Hospital on January 17 after being attacked while asleep at her grandmother's home in Filmer Road, Fulham, west London.

Mr Williams said: "Dogs have a lot of natural instincts, and human ones such as jealousy. They need careful handling when there is a new arrival in the family, especially when the owner transfers affection from the dog to the baby."

The 18-month-old dog, Jock, was later put down.

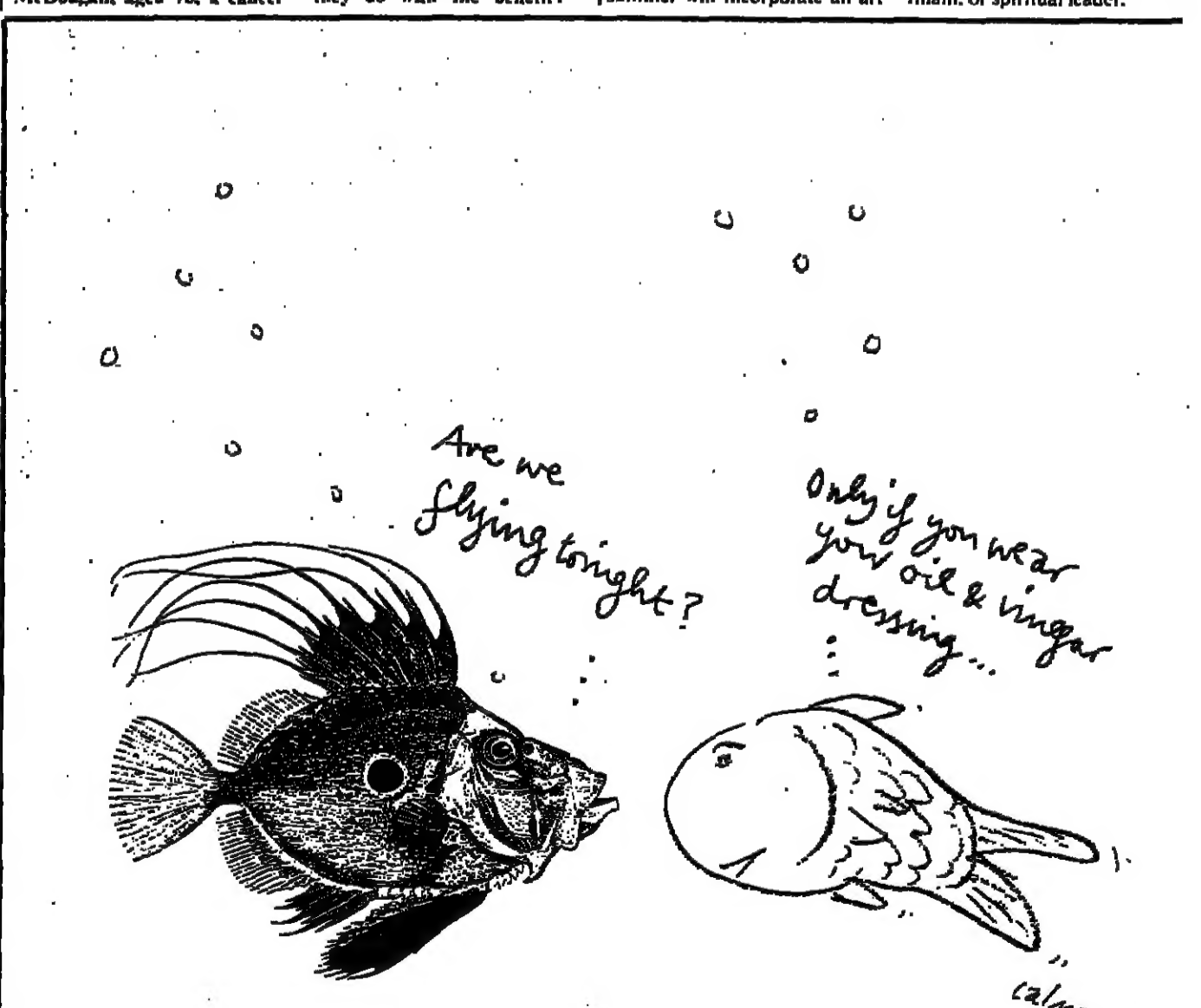
Professor David Bowen, a pathologist, said there was no doubt that the wounds were caused by the dog.

The baby's grandmother, Mary Alderman, told of the moment she looked into the bedroom and saw the dog on top of the baby.

She said: "I grabbed hold of the baby straight away. She never left my arms until she got to the hospital. She just made a sighing sound. I could see she was fading away."

Bird inquiry

The Ministry of Agriculture is investigating the death of a Red Kite, one of Britain's rarest birds of prey found in Hamsterley Forest, near Bishop Auckland, Co Durham, and possibly poisoned illegally.



Group admits race Act breach

A women's group funded by the Greater London Council, yesterday admitted practising racial discrimination.

The Women's Reproductive Rights Information Centre had seriously considered only black women for a post it had advertised, an industrial tribunal in London was told.

The group was ordered to pay £250 compensation to Miss Lorrien Finley, aged 37, of Claisford Street, Kenilworth, north-west London, who brought the case alleging discrimination.

Mr David Seven, the tribunal chairman, said that Miss Finley was "clearly discriminated against, contrary to the Race Relations Act". The compensation was for injury to her feelings.

Miss Finley answered and advertisement in *City Limits*

magazine last May for a part-time advice worker

She was not short-listed or interviewed for the post, which eventually went to a black woman, and a letter rejecting her application said it had been



Miss Lorrien Finley: 'clear case of discrimination'

decided "to short-list women of ethnic origin only."

Miss Rae Alexander, for the centre, told the hearing in Chelsea, south-west London: "The Women's Reproductive Rights do admit they breached the Race Relations Act and would ask the tribunal to make an assessment as to damages to be awarded. 'We would submit that Miss Finley, regardless of our discriminatory conduct, would not have got the post.'"

Miss Margaret Berez, an information officer and book-keeper at the centre, in Featherstone Street, Islington/Clerkenwell, north London who met Miss Finley before she applied for the job, said that she felt it might be difficult to work with her.

All the white women who did not get short-listed were told it was on ethnic grounds because "it was a way of being kind to them," she added.

TV ruling on National Front complaint rejected

London Weekend Television has rejected a Broadcasting Complaints Commission finding about a complaint by a National Front member, Mr Patrick Harrington, over *London Programme*. (David Hewson writes.)

Mr Harrington, who was at the centre of student troubles at the North London polytechnic, lost a complaint that a programme last May treated the dispute as between students and the National Front, and not as personal.

But the commission upheld a complaint that it was unfair for political opponents to make

allegations without him having an opportunity to reply.

LWT said that Mr Harrington agreed to an interview on condition that he was not questioned about his early political history, which he now denies.

Mr John Birt, director of programmes, said yesterday: "The BBC shows insufficient understanding of television journalism. The ruling dodges the issues raised by Mr Harrington's complaint and by implication advocates a code of practice for journalists which is neither practical nor proper."

Court told of dawn watch on egg collector

Investigators from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds raided homes, followed cars and watched parked vehicles at dawn in their hunt for illegal egg collections.

The officers, accompanied by detectives, entered the home of Colin Watson, aged 41, and also raided the home of his disabled son and elderly father.

More than 2,600 wild birds' eggs were recovered, including those of the golden eagle, osprey, sparrowhawk, and kestrel. Magistrates at Selby, North Yorkshire, were told.

Mr Watson denied 13 counts of having the eggs in his control

or possession in contravention of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981. He claimed that all but 16 eggs had been gathered since he was a schoolboy and before the Act became law.

Mr Watson, of Garmancarr Lane, Wistow, near Selby, claimed that the RSPB had offered him immunity from prosecution if he agreed to sign over his egg collection. He believed the RSPB was trying to use the law as a lever to get his egg collection for itself.

Magistrates adjourned the hearing until next month to give them time to study data cards produced by Mr Watson.

Mobil

Howe seeks better relations with Russia

DIPLOMACY

The decision to expel Soviet diplomats from London has been taken on the basis of irrefutable evidence, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, told the Commons.

Replying to a private notice question by Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, the Foreign Secretary said the expulsions had been carefully judged to make them as consistent as possible with the Government's long-term desire to see a continuing improvement in relations with the Soviet Union.

Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff South and Penarth, Lab) asked why, if it was Sir Geoffrey's intention to safeguard British security, minimize any damage to Anglo-Soviet relations and to protect the British community in Moscow, he had given any publicity to the expulsions at all.

Sir Geoffrey Howe replied: Because if one is securing withdrawal in this way, one is inevitably leading to speculation about why that is happening.

In addition it is necessary in cases of conduct of this kind that the Government should demonstrate to all concerned, not just the Soviet Union, that activities of this kind cannot be tolerated.

Government policy towards the Soviet Union, Sir Geoffrey told Mr Healey, had been made clear to the Russians on numerous occasions, including most recently when informing them on expulsions.

We wish, he said, to improve relations with the Soviet Union. We have made considerable efforts in this direction which will be maintained. But they have been hampered by the unacceptable activities of certain Soviet officials in this country.

In the circumstances, and in accordance with our long-standing policy, we had no choice but to expel the officials concerned.

We deeply regret the retaliatory

action taken against three members of the staff of our Moscow embassy. This was wholly unwarranted, and the accusations made against them without substance.

We have protested strongly to the Soviet authorities.

There can be no relaxation of our policy where our national security is concerned and we shall continue our policy of seeking to improve relations with the Soviet Union, and better relations between East and West.

Mr Healey: We approve his attempt to improve relations with the Soviet Union and welcome the progress he has made in recent weeks. That makes it all the more difficult to understand why he misbehaved the behaviour of Soviet diplomats in this way.

As I understand it, the Foreign Office made it clear last night that it was prepared to ask three of the Soviet diplomats engaged in illegitimate activities to leave without publicity on condition that the Soviets did not expel British diplomats in retaliation.

Why did he not approach all five diplomats in the same way? He might in that case have got an acceptable response.

The way in which Sir Geoffrey has misbehaved this case and made a distinction between the two expelled without publicity and the

three expelled with the promise of no publicity is difficult not only for us but for foreign diplomats in Moscow to understand.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said he did not think Mr Healey could sustain that charge.

The Soviet Ambassador had been told last Thursday that Captain Oleg Los, assistant naval attaché, and Mr Vyacheslav Grigorov of the Soviet airline Aeroflot had been found to be engaging in activities incompatible with their status in this country and should leave within seven days.

The Ambassador was at the same time informed that the Government wished the Soviet authorities to withdraw a further three officials within one month, again for activities incompatible with their status in this country.

He was told (Sir Geoffrey Howe said) that in response to the expulsion of Captain Los and Mr Grigorov the Soviets expelled any member of the British community in Moscow who would publicly expel the three named officials.

The fact is the Soviet authorities chose to ignore that warning and informed us last night that three members of our embassy in Moscow should leave.

It was as a result of the Soviet response that the Government found it necessary and right to order the expulsion of the other three officials within seven days.

Sir Anthony Kershaw (Stroud, C): The years of creeping and crawling by Mr Healey to the Soviets when he had influence and when they were humiliating to this country.

The Russians knew the rules, they broke the rules, they were caught and now they ought to stop whining.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: It is as a result of the activities of Soviet citizens that these actions have been necessary. They have been carefully judged to make them as consistent as possible with the long-term desire to see continued improvement in our relations with the Soviet Union.

Mr Patrick McNair-Wilson (New Forest, C): Is there any truth in the reports that at least one of those

being expelled was trying to obtain information about British laser technology. Are any proceedings being taken against UK citizens as a result of the investigations made by UK security services?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Action is taken in cases of this kind on the basis of irrefutable evidence. The House would not expect me to give any details.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab): It would be disastrous if these expulsions led to a situation where Anglo-Soviet relations were no longer improving. While recognizing the need at all times to protect this country's national security against any country abroad, would it not be right for the Foreign Secretary to make it perfectly clear to the Soviet authorities that the level that it is the wish of the Government to see a continuing improvement in Anglo-Soviet relations? Should not that be made clear at the first opportunity?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: We have to remain serious and vigilant in our protection of national security and serious and realistic in our search for improved relations with the Soviet Union. Both matters have to be considered alongside each other.

I have made a plain case to the Soviet authorities and I intend to continue to pursue the search for improvements in East-West relations and in relations with the Soviet Union. When I meet Mr Gromyko in Vienna early next month I will make the same point to him.

Mr Gavin Strang (Edinburgh East, Lab): Would he explain why he thought restricting the publicity of the expulsions would influence the Soviet response?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: It is customary in all these cases to make a judgement on how far to publicize the action taken. In this case we judged it right to require withdrawal of two members of the British community in Moscow to make plain that such conduct would not be tolerated but withdrawal of the other three would not be accompanied by publicity in order to limit damage to the British community in Moscow.

It is a matter of great regret that

Home believes Soviet Union is against military confrontation

HOUSE OF LORDS

There was a possibility that Russia's new leaders would modify the application of communist doctrine in relation to foreign policy, Lord Howe of the Heralds (C) said in opening a debate in the House of Lords on the desire of Britain and other Western democracies to seek better relations with the Soviet Union and the obstacles which continuing Soviet exploitation of economic and social problems in developing countries and intervention in the internal affairs of other states had placed in the way of attaining that objective.

He said the Russians had already had to adapt their military strategy to the fact that Nato had retained sufficient strength to all reward on aggression. The new thinking seemed to be - military confrontation, no continuing struggle, yes.

The future would rest on treaties. There should be no room for ambiguities in the use of words and every treaty needed to be verified against action on the ground. For the sake of their security these were things which they had to insist.

It will not be easy (he said) for better relations to be achieved. If international relations are going to be taken as their bond, if international relations are going to be satisfactory and put on any sort of secure basis, the Soviet Union has to endure every now and again; we shall get through it without much harm.

The timing of his debate was immaculate coming as it did at the moment when Russia had expelled a number of British diplomats.

Russia will always try to use diplomatic cover and when they are caught, as they always will be, they will always try to give the impression of minimum retaliation. The incident will in my opinion have no effect whatsoever on Russia's relations with this country. I am afraid this sort of incident is one we have to endure every now and again; we shall get through it without much harm.

The question had to be asked whether there was anything more the Western democracies could do to carry conviction with the Kremlin that we understood their preoccupation with the physical security of the Soviet Union within her own boundaries.

Wherever the fault lay, the alliance in the last war had not been enough to persuade the Russians that we meant what we said when we talked of a desire for closer relations.

If the Russian leaders were dissatisfied with the guarantees for their security that they had been given by the Nato allies, they should advance proposals which would be considered with a desire to remove their anxieties.

In their discussions of the Star Wars programme, the Americans had spoken of cooperation with the Soviet Union. The more negotiators immersed themselves in the technicalities of such an examination, the earlier they would recognize the real foundation for mutual security rested not in the technicalities but on the political will to coexist.

Why had relations between the Soviet Union and the democracies been so cold and barren? The answer would require some plain speaking and that was required now, because unless the new leaders of the Soviet Union were told plainly of the difficulties in which they constantly placed the democracies, would simply repeat the confrontation, friction and frustration of the last 40 years and no one wanted that.

The only firm foundation for relations between one country and another on the international stage (he said) is the treaty and the readiness of the signatories to treat to honour the obligations to which they put their names.

Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, said the motion called attention to the desire of the United Kingdom and all the democracies for better relations with the Soviet Union and this, indeed, was an accurate reflection of the Government's policy.

We cannot turn a blind eye (he said) to the fact that whether we like it or not the nuclear arsenals of the super powers are sufficient to blow us all to kingdom come. A great weight of responsibility rests on the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union but it is a weight that we, as members of the North Atlantic Alliance, are proud to share.

We must be consistent, patient but firm and we must be realistic. East-West relations cannot develop fast. We do not have illusions about the Soviet Union. At the same time we recognize it is there to stay and we must have dealings with it if we are to carry out our responsibilities.

He said the United Kingdom had been active and vigorous in opening up a dialogue with the Soviet Union. But he gave a warning that

No extra money for teachers

EDUCATION

The Government still stood by its refusal to find any extra money to honour an arbitration award for teachers which, if it was above the level already offered by the employers, would have to come out of local authority funds, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said during Commons questions.

He told MPs that he detected among the teachers' unions a great deal of disagreement in the pay dispute.

Management's offer of a 4 per cent increase, arbitration and further discussion of pay structure remained on the table. All three had been rejected. The two largest teachers' unions were at a conference of intensified industrial action, causing deliberate harm to children's education in support of their

claim for an extra £1,200 for all teachers.

The claim is unrealistic (he said) and no amount of action will change the fact that increases of that order are not remotely affordable.

Mr Harvey Proctor (Billerica, C) recalled that Mr Giles Radice, chief Opposition spokesman on education, had advocated the spending of £50 million to employ 14,000 more teachers. That worked out at £3,500 a teacher. That was unrealistic.

The solution to the dispute would be found in negotiation rather than through disruption and unrealistic claims.

Sir Keith Joseph said negotiation on one of the three options was the way forward. Mr Radice should justify his suggestion in the House.

Mr Clement Freud (Cambridgebridge North, C) sought an assurance that that approach would not be linked to quality of teaching. The introduction of merit awards in a low paid sector would have disastrous consequences.

Sir Keith Joseph: I will make no such pledge. Promotion which carries higher pay, is already based on an informal appraisal system. The Government seeks to make that

appraisal system formal with the agreement and help of the teachers in discussion.

I am not saying appraisal is to be connected with merit pay but that the whole subject should be discussed, tried out in pilot schemes for which money from the taxpayer has been set aside. It is inexcusable for the teacher unions to refuse even to discuss it.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C) said he found it hard to understand why the teachers had struck last year because they could not get arbitration and why they were now striking because they had refused to accept arbitration.

Mr Joseph said this apparent contradiction must be explained by the fact that the teachers obtained from arbitration last year only 0.6 per cent more than they had been offered already. The idea that an arbitrator could pluck money out of the air was part of the Utopian approach of many Labour MPs.

Mr Mark Carls (Warrington South, C) said that NUT leadership was doing immense damage to the profession by standing in the way of any award by arbitration.

Sir Keith Joseph said the NUT leadership was guilty of grossly

Home: Russia will always spy and always be caught

They should not be lulled into thinking that increased contacts were going to change the nature of communism or the underlying aim of Soviet policies. The Russians believed in the ultimate superiority of their political philosophy.

There were various ways the Soviet Union sought to extend its influence - to give the wheel of history a shove in the right direction if it was proving recalcitrant.

The whole history of their Afghanisthan involvement was nothing more than blatant, latter-day colonialism, tainted with lies and misrepresentation. There were organizations operating in the West which purported to be independent of Moscow, but which were really disguised instruments of foreign

Hint of early decision on nurses' pay increase

PM'S QUESTIONS

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during Commons questions that she hoped to be able to consider the report on nurses' pay, as well as those on the pay of doctors and dentists, without waiting for the report of the top salaries review body, though she added that the Government had to consider how all of the money was to be found across the board.

That money came not from Government but from taxpayers, she said, in reply to Mr William O'Brien (Normanton, Lab) who wanted an assurance that the money would not be taken from the report as she did, he said, last year. Decisions should be implemented as quickly as possible, he added.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, earlier sought an undertaking now that she was considering the report and recommendations of the nurses' pay review body, that Mrs Thatcher would support an award which at least would begin the return to the levels of real pay received by nurses in 1980.

Will she say the way out of that under no circumstances will she finance any part of any award by taking money from the rest of the NHS?

Mrs Thatcher: Three reports arrived yesterday, of which that for nurses was one. We consider them together. I cannot give him undertakings in advance of proper consideration.

He is the first to accuse me of increasing public expenditure (Labour protest). ... and the first to accuse me of a desire to put up interest rates or taxation.

I notice he refers to the level in 1980. He will therefore be very much aware that this Government has done very much better by the nurses than the Labour Government.

Mr Kinnock: That was achieved because of the Clegg award which she opposed at the time and only had to introduce it because of the way in which she undertook its implications in the course of the general election campaign.

Can she, without evasion, tell me whether she thought that public expenditure should be used for reasons of justice and proper reward to those who obviously deserve such awards? Does she think nurses are paid properly in 1985?

Mrs Thatcher: It was this Government which introduced the Clegg award. It was the previous Government which, not having the resources, made empty promises and left us to honour them.

Owen calls for independent supervision of voting

UNION BALLOTS

The Deputy Speaker (Mr Harold Walker) suspended the Commons sitting for 12 minutes in order to give what he called "a cooling-off period" after a row erupted over where Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democrats, could make his speech to open the SDP-Liberal alliance debate on trade union ballots.

Points of order, pushing and shoving occurred as Dr Owen sought, on finding his usual front bench seat below the Commons gangway occupied by Labour MPs, to move to the Opposition dispatch box. Altogether the Alliance debate, already late following a statement on the expulsion of Russian diplomats, was delayed a further 40 minutes before Dr Owen, when the House resumed, spoke from his usual place.

Dr Owen and other Alliance MPs had found their usual seats on the front bench below the gangway packed with Labour MPs. They then sat on the steps of the gangway.

After Mr David Harris (St Ives, C) had pointed to the possibility of trouble, the Deputy Speaker (Mr Harold Walker) said he could see plenty of empty seats which Dr Owen might occupy.

After several more points of order, Mr Walker called Dr Owen who moved from the gangway to speak at the Opposition dispatch

box. Mr John Prescott, chief opposition spokesman, employed, pushed Dr Owen away and asked what right the leader of the Social Democrats had to speak from there.

Ms Clare Short (Birmingham Ladywood, Lab) and Mr Kevin MacNamara (Hull North, Lab), both on the front bench, put their feet up on the dispatch box.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton South, SDP) said there was a deliberate attempt by the bully boys and thugs of the Labour Party, as was seen in the miners' strike, to stop free speech.

Mr Walker appealed to the Labour MPs occupying the SDP MPs' customary bench to leave it.

The House (he said) is not doing itself no credit at all.

Dr Owen, who had squeezed on to the Liberal bench next to Mr Stiel, was again called to speak and pushed aside the legs of Mr Short and Mr MacNamara with difficulty to reach the dispatch box.

Mr Roland Byrnes (Houghton and Washington, Lab) rose and said Dr Owen had physically assaulted the MPs. After more points of order, the sitting was suspended.

Most people were very glad there was going to be an emergency meeting of the executive of the Transport and General Workers Union on Thursday and hoped that a request for a new leadership ballot would be agreed. Dr Owen said

Action on jobs better than just talking

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in the Commons that anyone who could help solve the problem of unemployment in practical terms, as distinct from talking about it, was welcome. Since the Government had already introduced two measures proposed by the newly-established Employment Institute, it seemed as if they had a number of things in common.

She was responding to Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, who asked her whether she supported the cautious welcome given by the Secretary of State for Employment, Mr Tom King, to the Institute or the views expressed by the chairman of the conservative Party, Mr John Selwyn Gummer.

She said: I hope some (of the Institute) can help create new business which in practice means creating new jobs. I recognize that two of the ideas proposed already have been put in hand by the Government.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C): Will she please make it clear that she is welcoming any group of people who may have the time to spare to put forward for study some possible solutions to unemployment?

Mrs Thatcher: I thought I indicated what my view was.

Warning on glamorizing drug abuse

The danger of glamorizing drug abuse among the young was emphasized by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

Mr Roland Byrnes (Houghton and Washington, Lab) had asked him if he had read in the *Daily Mirror* that day the tragic story of Fiona Marshall, aged 17.

Does Sir Keith Joseph acknowledge the danger of glamorizing drug abuse? Does he agree that the campaign calling for debates, coordination and treatment of drug addiction is vital?

The Government's suggestion of £2m was insufficient and there must be a massive cash injection.

Sir Keith Joseph without minimizing the problem that the boys wished to give to drug abuse, or of the efforts of the *Daily Mirror*, were advised that there is a danger, which could be counter-productive, of glamorizing the subject.

Sir Bernard Braine (Cusick Point, C) said one could not start too early in warning the young of the dangers. Was Sir Keith Joseph contemplating issuing any directive to local education authorities?

Sir Keith Joseph said there was a danger of giving the wrong impression, of steering children in the wrong direction and in trying to bring the truth to children too young

'Hit squads' urged to beat parking menace in London

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

The Greater London Council proposes the use of "hit squads" with computer blacklists of parking offenders.

They would cruise London streets with towaway vehicles in radio contact with computer records.

Illegally parked cars with a record of offences could be towed away and kept until the owner paid a fine.

The system based on one already working successfully in Washington DC, would be linked with other radical steps to deal with London's parking difficulties. Mr Paul Moore, vice-chairman of the GLC transport committee, said yesterday.

To extend London's wheel-clamp experiment, which has reduced parking offences by a third in central London in two years, to the whole of Greater London.

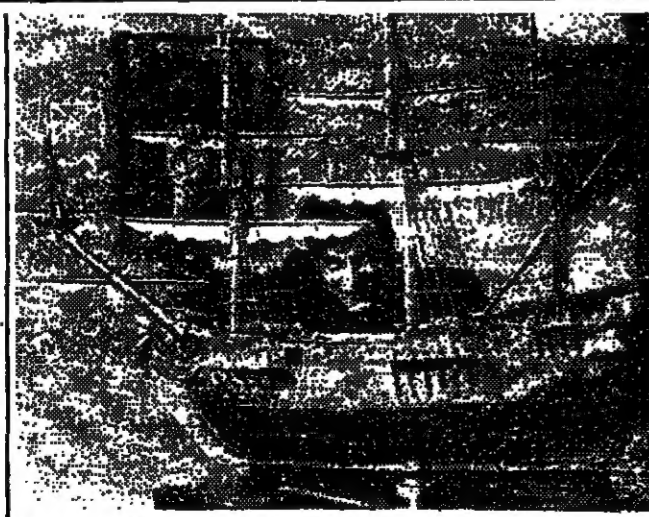
To transfer traffic wardens from police to GLC control, and increase the force from 1,800 to 4,000.

To "decentralize" parking offences by removing them from the jurisdiction of the courts, where a huge backlog of cases waits to be heard. Instead, a local authority charge would be made on the offending vehicle, which could stay clamped until accumulated charges were paid.

Mr Moore agreed that the scheme would require new legislation, but thought that it was in operation in about a year. If the GLC were abolished at about that time the scheme could still go ahead.

It could be modified after a two-month consultation period, launched yesterday, but Mr Moore said that increasing traffic wardens without the other changes could just increase the logjam in the courts.

The wheel-clamp scheme had been a great success Mr Moore said, and should be built on. The Government has temporarily extended it for a further two years.



Portsmouth Cathedral's Golden Barque weather vane, which can be seen next month as the church celebrates 800 years of worship. Behind is the Very Rev David Stancliffe, the provost. (Photograph: Dod Miller)

£175m water mains scheme

A £175 million scheme to replace London's ageing water system was announced yesterday by the Thames Water Authority.

The authority believes patching up the system, a quarter of which is more than 100 years old, no longer makes economic sense. It hopes to save £150 million over 20 to 40 years. Historically, London's water has been fed on a system of

VAT's crucial impact on building repairs

If the Government's cuts in public spending on housing have had a devastating effect on the work of local authorities in the housing field, two other decisions by the Government have made a significant difference to the private sector and owner occupiers.

The imposition of 15 per cent value added tax on building alterations last June caused a rush of orders to beat the deadline, but since then, the extra cost of such work has proved a disincentive. The building industry's state of trade inquiry showed an increase up to the deadline, followed by a sharp decline.

It also made housebuilders think again about inner city schemes, which have begun to play an important part in providing housing in difficult areas. It has not had a catastrophic effect on activity in this sphere, but with so many other constraints affecting housing, the extra cost of the work is crucial.

In theory, the decision might have encouraged people to buy a new house, rather than make improvements, but the increase in mortgage rates has dampened enthusiasm for that course. In

Housing in Crisis: 3

The bill for repairing defective and sub-standard housing and the cost of meeting the housing shortage is estimated to be between £30 and £50 billion. In this concluding article, CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, Property Correspondent, reports on the search for the necessary resources.

addition, although there still seems to be an unfulfilled demand for home ownership, the increasing cost of houses at the lower end of the market and high unemployment conspire to dull demand.

The reduction in the level of improvement grants consequent on the squeeze on public expenditure is also causing necessary work to go undone. Improvement grants increased rapidly from about £123 million in 1980 to a peak of £933 million for improvement and thermal insulation grants in 1983-84. For 1984-85 the total dropped to £778 million, with still lower amounts planned for the future.

Defending the Government's decision to cut back on the grants, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, recalled that at its peak the improvement grant scheme contributed only about 10 per cent to the total spent on improvement and repairs by

owner occupiers, landlords and developers, which is running at about £9,000 million a year.

"This demonstrates very clearly the limited impact that the public sector mortgage has when set against the resources of the private sector," he said.

The National Home Improvement Council believes that unless the Government changes its mind on putting money into improvement and renewal, the results will not only be disastrous but could mean a reversal of its philosophy.

In a discussion document, *Improving Our Homes*, it concludes that, unless public investment is increased, a new house condition survey would show that a substantial number of dwellings which are now in serious disrepair would have become slums.

What Mr Jenkin wants is a series of partnerships, involving all forms of tenure, with local and central government, private

Vietnam rejects US request to hand over detainees

Hanoi (Reuters) - A Vietnamese leader has said Hanoi will not free re-education camp inmates to enable them to go to the US, a stand seen by diplomats as a setback to prospects of diplomatic ties with Washington.

Mr Le Duc Tho said in an interview that Washington should begin talks on normalizing relations with Hanoi. American actions elsewhere in the world showed the US had not learnt from its defeat in Vietnam 10 years ago.

Asked about re-education camp inmates, Mr Tho, who was Vietnam's negotiator at the 1973 Paris peace talks, said: "We cannot turn them over to the American side for a simple reason: these people were guilty of war crimes."

Western diplomats said his position was an obstacle to normalizing relations with Washington, which has offered to re-settle people held by Vietnam as political prisoners.

Authorities here say about 7,000 civilians and military personnel associated with the former South Vietnamese Government are still in re-education camps. Western diplomats say the figure is at least twice that.

Mr Tho said it was consistent Vietnamese policy not to release re-education camp inmates to the US, and described Hanoi's previous statements to the contrary as a misunderstanding.

"The misunderstanding was perhaps as a result of a technical problem, but our policy has remained consistent."

As far as he knew, the detainees' release was not an American condition for normalization of relations. It was "high time" the US ended its policy of confrontation against Vietnam and entered into negotiations on establishing relations. As a gesture of goodwill, Vietnam imposed no conditions on normalization.

"Whether it can happen or not depends on the US."

Mr Tho also said the question of US servicemen missing in action from the war was not a big obstacle to normalization. Washington has repeatedly urged Hanoi to step up efforts to trace the remains of 2,477 men missing in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

"That good is it for Vietnam to continue to hold these remains, these bones?"

The Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, said earlier that a US team would be allowed to visit Vietnam in June to inspect a B52 crash site, but this was a special case and appeared to rule out more visits to continue to hold these remains, these bones?

Mr Tho, aged 74, was in good spirits and health during the 90-minute interview at the Communist Party Central Committee headquarters.

He said Vietnam encountered enormous problems after the war. Mistakes had been made in managing the economy because of lack of experience, but "tremendous achievement" had been made.

PEKING: Prince Norodom Sihanouk has asked to resign as president of the Cambodian anti-Vietnamese guerrilla coalition (Reuters reports).

Diplomats said he wrote to Mr Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge leader and coalition Prime Minister, tendering his resignation for health reasons.

His offer of resignation may reflect unease about the limited aid given to his forces by the Khmer Rouge during recent Vietnamese offensives against guerrilla bases on the Thai border. Beneath a veneer of unity against Vietnam, the guerrilla alliance is bitterly divided.

Hanoi has achieved Ho Chi Minh's ambition

In his final article on Indo-China 10 years after the fall of Saigon, David Watts examines the position of Laos and developments in the region as a whole.

The communist control of Indo-China with Soviet backing was celebrated at a Cambodian summit meeting in 1981.

The meeting was not reported by the Soviet media at the time but in early September President Brezhnev met the Lao Communist Party Secretary and Prime Minister, Mr Kaysone Phomvihane, the then Cambodian Party Secretary, Mr Pen Sovan, and Mr Le Duan, the Vietnamese Party Secretary.

The meeting followed the appointment of Laos as the Indo-Chinese "point man" with the Lao Foreign Minister taking the leading role in attempts to

maintain better relations with the United States than have other three countries of Indo-China.

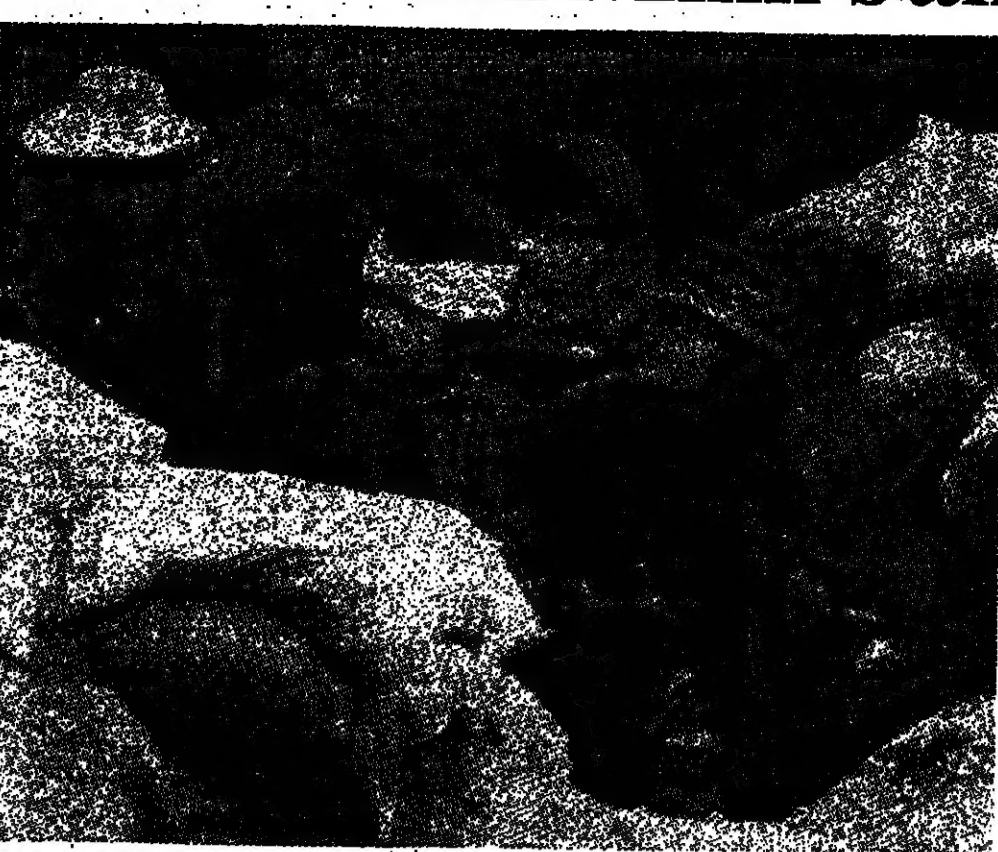
Since the emergence of Laos as the spokesman, Hanoi has been careful to give the appearance of taking every important policy decision before it is implemented to regular meetings of the Indo-Chinese foreign ministers for their consideration.

But for all intents and purposes Vietnam has achieved Ho Chi Minh's ambition of bringing all of Indo-China under Vietnamese tutelage. Ascan and other countries have resolutely refused to recognize Indo-China as a bloc. And, interestingly enough, the Soviet Union has taken great care to strengthen relations with Laos and Cambodia to ensure that their relationships are not all conducted through Hanoi.

The Soviet Union is linked to Vietnam through a satellite ground station which receives Soviet television programming. Aid is sent partly through Bangkok rather than Hanoi because of higher costs and pilferage.

Moscow and Phnom Penh are linked directly by air and the Soviet Union has developed the port of Kompong Som almost to the point of its becoming a Soviet enclave.

Hanoi has to pay a price for the privilege of leadership. Demands on Vietnamese manpower, skills and resources have been heavy since the occupation of Cambodia. Financial aid to Laos has been sizeable. Even poor, underdeveloped Laos has given help to Cambodia with the completion of a 30-bed hospital and



Last stand: Cambodian guerrillas await the attack that ousted them from Ampil.

road repair, but it has clearly less to gain.

Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia has steadily lost its friends and influence over the years but ironically the latest dry season offensive may have left it in a stronger political position than ever.

The Cambodian resistance on

the Thai border has been routed and is busy re-thinking its strategy. But more important than that, China has not moved to punish Vietnam. This time there has been no big attack across the Chinese border. Ever since Vietnam moved into Cambodia, China has been a clear deterrent to further action.

This time Peking seems to think that its own internal economic development should take precedence over regional policy, the consternation of Ascan.

But the Chinese attitude could turn out to be a double-edged sword for Vietnam: the threat from China has always been one of Hanoi's strongest

SIGNIFICANT DATES

Pathet Lao assume control of Coalition Government as rightist officials flee, summer 1975.
People's Democratic Republic of Laos declared, December 2, 1975.
Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation signed with Vietnam, July 18, 1977.
Kriengsak Chomanand: first visit by a Thai Prime Minister, January 4, 1979.
Indo-Chinese foreign ministers meet in Phnom Penh, January 1980.
US National League of Families (of missing servicemen) makes successful visit, 1982.
Illegal mission of Mr James "Bo" Grizz to find missing American servicemen sets back relationship with US, early 1983.
Lao-Thai relations suffer setback as Thai army pushes Lao "intruders" out of border villages that later prove to be on Lao territory, June 4 1984.

THE EXODUS: 1975-1985

Total of escapees to US since 1975: at least 130,000.
Vietnamese of Chinese origin resettled in China: 260,000.
Total number of refugees resettled in Western countries: 961,115 including 588,109 boat people.
The number of escapees who died is unknown. Other Cambodian refugees remain in camps near the Thai-Cambodian border and Lao refugees are camped near the Thai-Lao border.

arguments justifying its presence in Cambodia. Once the Chinese threat was removed it would withdraw, said Hanoi. If the Khmer Rouge prove to be irreparably damaged as a fighting force Hanoi might have to start making good on some of its pledges.

Concluded

Papandreou loses a deputy

From Mario Mediano Athens

The ruling Greek Socialists suffered a serious reverse when one of their deputies defected on Monday night and offered to support the Moscow-line Communist Party in the coming elections.

Mr Tasos Intris, MP for Salonika, said he left the party because it had failed to fulfil promises to take Greece out of Nato and the European Community.

The defection came as Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister, opted for early elections on June 2, trusting that his summary removal of President Karanmanlis was winning him party voter support from the left.

That calculation was tended to be confirmed by a declaration of support for the Socialists signed by 316 wartime leaders of the Communist-controlled Greek resistance headed by Markos Vafiadis, commander of the Communist insurgents during the Greek Civil War.

The defection of Mr Intris, who belonged to the party's left wing, runs against that trend and is causing the Socialist leadership serious concern. It is aggravated by rumours that one or two Socialist deputies from northern Greece might also defect.

Hungarian dissidents may fight poll choice

From Richard Bassett, Budapest

Two of Hungary's leading dissidents said they were contemplating appeals after their defeat in election candidate selection meetings in Budapest.

Supporters of Mr Laszlo Rajik told The Times that his failure to gain the necessary third of the vote at his ward in the fifth district of the city had been the result of his Communist opponents "packing" the voting hall with supporters.

The election law requiring at least two candidates does not make any demands for an independent means of counting votes. According to one supporter of Mr Rajik, even the number of hands raised to support him had been underestimated in the official count.

Mr Gaspar Miklos Tamas, whose defeat was expected as a result of his optimistically standing against Mr Peter Varkonyi, the Foreign Minister, also said he was contemplating an appeal.

Although Mr Tamas met some opposition when he spoke at the meeting, his reception was altogether more favourable than at his first selection skirmish, when he had hardly been able to make himself heard.

A number of other dissidents and writers spoke eloquently in favour.

Mr Varkonyi's reply dwelt on the unfairness of dissidents enjoying the support of the foreign press for a national election, and he drew considerable applause when he referred to the presence of "enemies of the state" in the voting hall.

New names for old in Zimbabwe

From Jan Raath Harare

The Government of Zimbabwe has published a list of 120 new names to replace those given to the country's main government buildings, rivers and districts by white explorers and settlers.

The 13 buildings remained include the office of the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, which is now Munhumutapa Building, named after a kingdom of the 18th-century ancestors of the Shona tribe.

Most of the other names, listed in a statement issued yesterday are in honour of the Shona leaders who opposed the occupation of Rhodesia at the turn of the century. Only one commemorates guerrillas in the liberation war which ended in 1980, when Mr Mugabe was voted into power.

Bulawayo's sole government-owned block, Tredgold Building, retains its name. It was named after Sir Robert Tredgold, the Chief Justice who resigned in 1960 refusing to implement laws that gave the Rhodesian Government the power to detain without trial.

The rest of the list is devoted to corrections of spellings of the names of districts and rivers already in the vernacular languages, but evidently misheard, mispronounced and misspelt by the early surveyors

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Leading the way to the USA



China ends 18-year rift

Bandung, Indonesia (Reuters) - Indonesia and China agreed yesterday to hold formal talks for the first time since Jakarta froze diplomatic relations between the two countries after a communist-backed coup attempt 20 years ago.

The Indonesian Foreign Minister, Dr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, said that the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, had asked for a meeting. The talks were being arranged.

Mr Wu, attending ceremonies to mark the 30th anniversary of the historic Bandung Asia-Africa conference, is the first Chinese minister to visit Indonesia since relations were suspended in 1967.

He said on arrival in Jakarta on Monday night that China would not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries and that he would be honoured to meet President Suharto of Indonesia.

Diplomats who refuse to pay parking fines will risk being expelled

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Foreign diplomats who refuse to pay their parking fines risk being sent home under tough new measures which the Foreign Office is introducing next week.

A stricter code of practice is also being applied to officials and their families who commit serious offences while in Britain, then shelter behind their diplomatic immunity to stay out of court.

Closer control over the handling of diplomatic bags and the size of foreign missions is among other steps announced by the Government yesterday to lessen the abuse of diplomatic privilege.

But it has ruled against trying to amend the Vienna Convention, the diplomat's bill of rights, or the introduction of widespread searches, which could rebound against British officials serving abroad.

The new "firmer policy" in applying the off-maligned Vienna Convention is outlined in a report which emerges just over a year after WPC Yvonne Fletcher was shot dead outside the Libyan People's Bureau during what became known as the siege of St James's Square.

It follows both a Foreign Office internal review of diplomatic immunity and a recent investigation by the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, all of whose main recommendations have been accepted.

The report says that the Government is "seriously concerned" by the number of unpaid parking fines by diplomats, which reached 102,179 in 1983 and about 109,000 last year - double the figures for 1979 and 1980.

It states unequivocally that the abuse has now reached an unacceptable level and that the

Government is determined to reduce it "very substantially".

All heads of foreign missions in London, therefore, have been warned that, in view of the failure of all previous attempts to tackle the problem, persistent and deliberate offenders may no longer be acceptable as accredited diplomats in Britain.

From May 1 detailed records of all unpaid parking tickets will

reduction, the report says. But in some cases the embassy concerned might have the ceiling on the number of its diplomats lowered after an offender has been sent home - a practice already followed in respect of spying offences by Soviet staff.

While ruling out random searches or radar scans of diplomatic bags - in which the Libyans are suspected of smuggling out the gun which killed WPC Fletcher - the Government has promised that, where there is sound evidence that national security is threatened, it will not hesitate to act.

It also says that proposals to control the acquisition and disposal of diplomatic premises "in exceptional circumstances" are now being considered by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

But demonstrations outside embassies will be allowed to continue when they do not endanger those inside or interfere with their work. The Government has rejected some of the criticism directed at the Foreign Office over the Libyan People's Bureau as having been written with the benefit of hindsight.

The rules for the use of diplomatic premises have also been tightened, and even the charging of fees for language classes and public lectures declared incompatible.

Diplomatic status is being withdrawn from those few tourist offices which at present enjoy it and might also be removed from other embassy buildings which are being used improperly.

Diplomatic Immunities and Privileges: Command 9497, HMSO £3.30.

Leading article, page 13

THE WORST - AND BEST

Worst offenders in 1983 were (1982 in brackets). Figures are of tickets cancelled:

1. Nigeria 6,616 (5,483)
2. Egypt 6,294 (4,378)
3. Saudi Arabia 4,871 (3,514)
4. Brazil 3,010 (1,524)
5. Iraq 2,983 (2,850)
6. Libya 2,708 (2,611)

(Metropolitan Police figures) Seven missions had no tickets cancelled in 1983: Argentina, Australia, Haiti, New Zealand, St Vincent, St Lucia and the Grenadines, Upper Volta and the United Nations.

The US, which has the largest diplomatic corps in Britain, had only 207 tickets cancelled.

be kept and, where necessary, brought to the attention of the ambassador. Further offences will then lead to a request that the official is transferred or withdrawn, the report goes on.

It says, however, that although 546 serious offences were committed during 1974-84 by the 15,000 people entitled to claim diplomatic immunity, these need to be kept in perspective. About 40 per cent involved theft, mainly shoplifting, and 40 per cent were traffic offences, mainly driving under the influence of drink.

The application of more stringent standards and clearer guidelines which have been sent to embassies should lead to a

Poles bury priest's case despite doubts

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Those who had expected the Warsaw Supreme Court to pull rabbits out of hats, to let skeletons tumble discreetly out of cupboards, were disappointed by the appeal hearings of the murder of Father Jerzy Popieluszko.

The court decided on Monday night to uphold the long terms imposed on the four secret policemen who killed the Solidarity priest and has now effectively buried the case along with its awkward political questions.

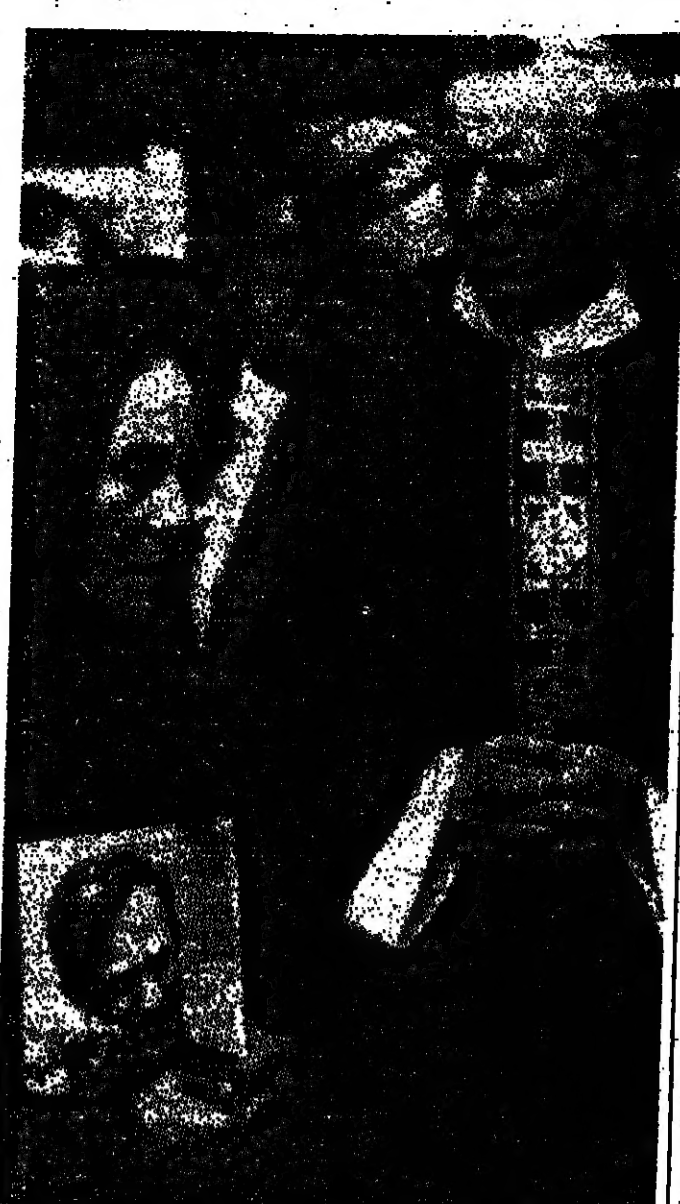
The problem that dogged the Torun trial in January and February was: Who was behind the three callow, ambitious secret agents? Who ordered the killing? The court, leaning heavily - on the testimony of the principal murderer, ex-captain Grzegorz Piotrowski, decided that the chain of command went no further than his immediate superior, Colonel Adam Pietruszka, the 47-year-old deputy director of the church monitoring department of the secret police.

There had been some speculation that the appeal court, out of the glare of the television lights, would decide that the case against Pietruszka as the mastermind was not strong enough and that a retrial would be ordered.

But the appeal documents were even more politically weighted than the original

hearings. Piotrowski, in a 48-page appendix to the court documents, laid more blame on Pietruszka and at the same time argued that the murder was not premeditated. The actual killing had been carried out principally by one of the lieutenants, Leszek Pekala. Pekala was "mentally disturbed" according to Piotrowski, who claims to have been vomiting through most of the crime.

Although the court rejected Piotrowski's appeal against his 25-year jail term, it accepted one of his arguments, that - in the words of the Chief Judge,



In memoriam: Mrs Maryanna Popieluszko and Catholic priests at a pilgrimage in honour of her murdered son.

Jozef Miklos - "the chief instigator of the crime was Adam Pietruszka and the others implemented his plan".

The murder, it was said in court, was supposed "to create an atmosphere of tension and conflict in the country", but the court did not explain how this could have been the sole concept of an isolated police colonel.

A Catholic lawyer, Mr Jan Olaszewski, representing the Popieluszko family, highlighted the unsatisfactory conclusion of the case "the eventual inspiration of this crime remains in the dark. Pietruszka or Piotrowski could cast light on it, but they do not

want to do so," he said.

Final scorecard: Pietruszka and Piotrowski will have to serve their 25-year sentences. Pekala his 15-year term and the other ex-lieutenant, Waldemar Chmielewski, 14 years. Those mentioned in the course of the original hearings as being sympathetic to the cause of the kidnappers are still active in their careers. General Zenon Platek, the head of the church monitoring department, is believed to have been transferred to the directorship of the Customs Service, and the head of the Secret Service, General Wladyslaw Czapla, is still described in the press as a Deputy Interior Minister.

Lok Sabha in uproar over Gujarat riot

From Kuldip Nayyar, Delhi

For 10 minutes yesterday, the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Indian Parliament, could not transact any business because of noisy scenes - both

opposition and ruling party members tried to raise the issue of violence in Gujarat. Many remarks were expunged on the Speakers order and he refused an opposition adjournment motion.

Later, the entire opposition except the all-India Anna Dravida grouping walked out in protest against the chair's refusal to allow even discussion of the statement of Mr S. B. Chavan, the Home Minister.

French education reform Curriculum changes run into storm

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Only three months after the euphoria which greeted the Government's announcement of a "back to basics" programme in primary schools, scepticism about the wisdom of the Government's aims and its ability to bring about the promised reform are beginning to be voiced.

Under detailed plans published yesterday the present informal structure of the French primary school day will be reorganised from next autumn to introduce seven distinct subjects into the curriculum, place a renewed emphasis on the "three Rs", reestablish "civic" education, including the learning by heart of the "Marseillaise", and give every child some experience of computers.

At present only mathematics and French are taught as separate subjects, all other disciplines being lumped together into what are called "awakening activities". Under the new curriculum, history and geography, arts and music, physical education, civic education, and science and technology, will each be taught in a systematic and ordered way in separate classes with a specified amount of time allotted to each.

A full third of the 27-hour week will be devoted to reading, writing and speaking the French language. At present, one in five French children leaves primary school without being able to read. M Jean Pierre Chevènement, the Education Minister,

is determined to reduce their number.

Civic education, all but defunct in most schools for the past decade, is to be revived with a view to developing "honesty, courage, a rejection of racism, love for the Republic", and a knowledge of French political and administrative institutions.

The national advisory council on general and technical education, which includes representatives of teachers' union and parents, has voted more than two to one against the Government's planned reforms.

The two main parents' organizations complain that the Government was insisting on the necessity of acquiring knowledge, without saying anything about how that knowledge is to be acquired.

The teachers' unions complain that the planned reforms seek to institute far too directive a style of education, leaving little room for any initiative by the child. In addition, the curriculum for some subjects, like history and geography, was far too heavily laden, while for others, such as French, it was far too imprecise and "woolly".

The tone has changed markedly since the first government announcement in February, when the right-wing daily *Le Quotidien* departed from its usual virulent criticism of the Socialist Government to cry "Bravo, Chevènement" in bold letters across its front page.

Farm ministers forced to wait for price decision

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The apathetic search for new EEC farm price levels this year hung fire in Brussels last night as ministers awaited news from Luxembourg, where budget ministers were trying to fix a ceiling on Community spending.

The Budget ministers were considering a European Commission proposal for finding about £1,800 million more than the Community is allowed to raise to pay this year's bills.

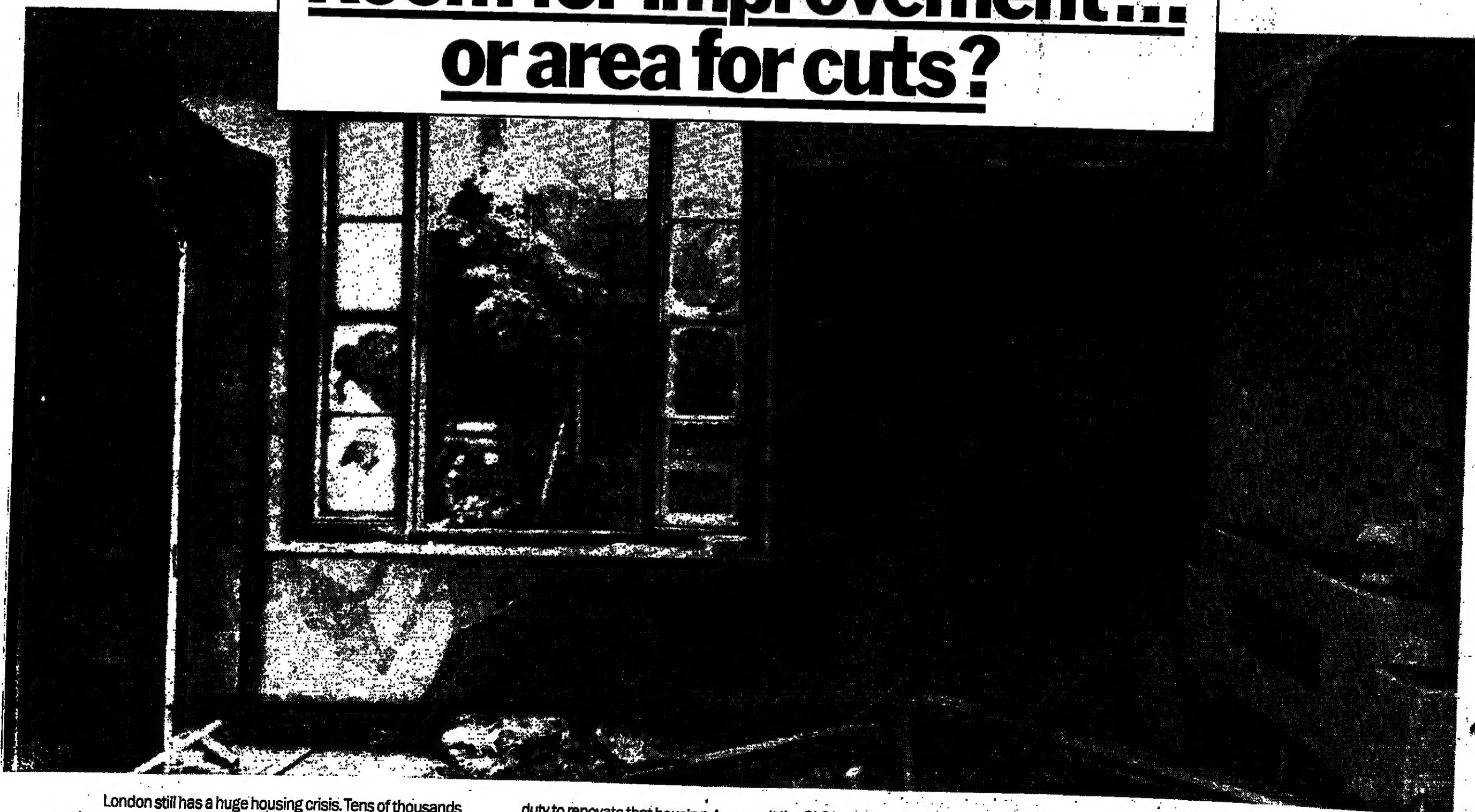
That calculation assumes that farm ministers "will accept proposals this year for a virtual price freeze on most products. But in Brussels the West German farm minister, Herr Ignaz Kiechle, refused categorically to accept these proposals.

which would mean a cut in cereal prices of 3.6 per cent. He seems unlikely to shift from this position until the *Land* elections in Rheinland-Westphalia on May 12 because he knows the West German Government would lose votes.

The budget ministers were going over work they did nine months ago, when they first looked at a £18,000 million draft budget for 1985.

The new budget includes extra money to be raised by a special surplus payment from each member state. The Commission believes this extra requirement totals about £1,800 million, though Britain believes this figure can be cut by at least £360 million.

Room for improvement... or area for cuts?



London still has a huge housing crisis. Tens of thousands are homeless and one home in four is unfit for human habitation, in serious disrepair, or lacking basic amenities such as a bathroom.

Although the very worst conditions are to be found in private sector rented housing, many council homes are now over 50 years old and badly in need of modernisation.

In 1980 the GLC began transferring its homes to the London boroughs and undertook a government-imposed legal

duty to renovate that housing. As a result the GLC is investing in a massive £1,000 million programme of improvement up to 1992.

This programme is the biggest of its kind in the country. It has required the expertise both of the GLC and the private construction industry to deal with the immense problems concerned.

Abolition of the GLC would at best mean a tremendous disruption to the renovation programme. At worst, it could end it altogether. The Government has stated that the London boroughs

will receive the money previously allocated to the GLC. However, during the past five years, the money made available by the Government for public investment in housing in London has been more than halved. Furthermore, a cut of £65 million in housing allocations was hailed as a 'victory' by the Secretary of State.

What price decent housing for Londoners after 1986, with this record?

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The East-West divide

Sealed lips but broad smiles as first round of Geneva talks finishes

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

The American delegation expected these negotiations to be difficult, and they have been, said Mr. Max Kampelman, head of the US delegation in the nuclear arms control talks with the Soviet Union, after the concluding plenary session yesterday of the initial round that began on March 12.

"Nevertheless, we had an intensive set of meetings, both formal and informal," he added, reading a prepared statement, "and we believe that the first round served a useful purpose in helping to bring about increased understanding of one another's positions. We look forward to the resumption of our sessions when the second round opens on May 30. A great deal remains to be done."

Accompanied by the two other senior members of the 70-strong US delegation, Mr. Kampelman is in Brussels today

briefing the Nato allies before returning to Washington tomorrow to report to President Reagan. He declined to take questions. "As you know, there is a confidentiality agreement between the US and Soviet negotiators which reflects the conviction that our role as negotiators is best served if we limit what we say in the public forum."

Emerging earlier from the US disarmament mission building, venue of the final plenary of two hours 10 minutes, the chief Soviet delegate, Mr. Viktor Karpov, stuck scrupulously to that agreement. His lips were sealed, but sealed at least with a broad smile as, pausing for the television cameras, he slowly shook his head before the microphones.

With a significant diminution in the rhetoric from the capitals in the close phase, this first

round seems to have enabled the two sides to appraise the depths of their mutual fears and apprehensions.

While envisaging an eventual balance in strategic and medium-range weapons, "is an exercise of which they have had much experience in previous negotiations over the past two decades, they are still far apart on the 'Star Wars' issue. The Russians apparently remain adamant that abandonment by the Americans of the strategic defence initiative project, even before the research phase has run its course, is a virtual *sine qua non* for agreement on the other categories of weapons."

In addition, the outcome of efforts here seems to have become increasingly more contingent on the results of the summit, now expected in September. Only some accord at that level can produce the necessary confidence.

Europe eyes Star War spin-off

From Frank Johnson, Bonn

Foreign and defence ministers of the seven countries of the Western European Union seem to have agreed, with varying degrees of enthusiasm, that some kind of US space-based missile defence system is inevitable.

The essential thing was for their countries not to lose out on the benefits of a project so vast that part of it will have to be developed by European companies. The WEU members are France, Italy, Luxembourg, Britain, The Netherlands, Belgium and West Germany.

Theoretically, Star Wars was not one of the main subjects of the two-day WEU meeting which ended here yesterday. The official view was that it was essentially about carrying on the

effort, which began in Rome last year, to make the 30-year-old organization more important as the voice of the European pillar of Nato.

The communiqué yesterday confined itself to saying: "The ministers also examined questions associated with research efforts concerning strategic defence. They agreed to continue their collective efforts... in order to achieve as far as possible a co-ordinated reaction of their governments to the invitation of the United States to participate in the research."

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Michael Heseltine, the British Defence Secretary, said: "We are at the very beginning of our dialogue with the US."

The British seem to have shown the most scepticism about Star Wars or, as some of the others might put it, the greatest wish somehow, even at this late stage, to prevent it happening in any advanced form. There was a hint of this in the tone which Mr. Heseltine adopted at the final press conference yesterday.

It was more guarded than that of Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, West Germany's Foreign Minister, even though Herr Genscher is understood to be more guarded than Chancellor Kohl. All in all, the general view in Bonn is that this first attempt by the WEU to deal with an important immediate issue has not resulted in much European unity.

Italy hails visit by Honecker

Rome (Reuters) - Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, began talks with Italian political leaders yesterday at the start of a visit hailed in Italy as likely to pave the way towards better East-West understanding.

Herr Honecker's two-day trip, which will include an audience with the Pope, is the first by an East German head of state and government to the capital of a Nato and European Community nation.

It follows a visit to East Berlin last July by Signor Bettino Craxi, Italy's Socialist Prime Minister, during which, according to Italian political analysts, the two countries laid the foundation for a cautious dialogue.

Officials in Rome see the visit as significant, both for Italy's policy of improving relations with communist countries and for East Berlin's own *glasnost* initiatives.

Last year, Herr Honecker called off a proposed visit to West Germany at short notice, under what Western commen-



Italy's guest: Herr Honecker, right, with Signor Craxi inspects a guard of honour at Rome airport.

tators saw as heavy Soviet pressure. His arrival in Italy reflects something of a thaw in the East-West climate since their analysis said.

Signor Craxi met Herr Honecker at Ciampino airport and was holding the first of two meetings with him at his office in central Rome.

Herr Honecker laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Piazza Venezia and was the luncheon guest of President Pertini. The East German leader was expected to sign Signor Craxi to respond to the Soviet freeze on SS20 medium-range missile deployments in Europe.

Tradition revived by royal couple

Florence (Reuters) - The Prince and Princess of Wales yesterday renewed a tradition of the British royal family dating back to the late 19th century by touring this centre of Renaissance culture.

The royal couple, who are making a 17-day visit to Italy, began their tour with visits to an 11th-century church and a collection of Renaissance paintings in the Palazzo Pitti.

Florence's artistic and architectural splendours have attracted the British royal family since Queen Victoria paid several visits to the city in the twilight of her reign.

The visitors' book in the Palazzo Vecchio, the seat of local government, has an entry by Queen Victoria dated April 20, 1855, as well as the signatures of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, who visited in 1953.

The Prince and Princess, who are staying in a 16th-century villa outside Florence, visited the San Miniato church on a hill overlooking the city yesterday.

According to legend, Saint Miniato, after being beheaded in a Roman amphitheatre, carried his severed head across the River Arno to the spot where the church now stands. As the royal couple left the church, they lingered in a souvenir shop run by monks, where they were presented with a bottle of herbal liquor, a pot of honey and a ceramic bowl.

Donald Regan dominates White House team

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan has carried out a major reorganization of his White House team, which is intended to streamline policy development by placing political decision-making in fewer hands.

Under the new arrangement Mr. Donald Regan, his recently appointed Chief of Staff, has emerged as the dominant figure of the second Reagan Administration. He will preside at the top of the White House management ladder and will co-ordinate the work of two powerful new centralized Cabinet councils set up under the reorganization programme.

The first of these councils will be headed by Mr. James Baker, the Treasury Secretary, and will handle economic policy; the second, under Mr. Edwin Meese, the Attorney-General, will deal with almost all aspects of domestic policy.

This new arrangement has meant the elimination of seven Cabinet councils which dealt with commerce and trade, economic affairs, food and agriculture, human resources, legal policy, management and administration and natural resources and the environment.

Although Mr. Regan will be first among equals, Mr. Baker and Mr. Meese will have greatly expanded powers and will be more directly involved in managing the Government than is customary for Cabinet members in the US.

Mr. Robert McFarlane, the President's national security adviser, will remain the President's chief White House adviser on foreign policy.

The restructuring means that the formulation of policy during Mr. Regan's second term will be carried out by a small group of three officials - Mr. Baker, Mr. Meese and Mr. McFarlane. They will report to Mr. Regan, who will serve as an ex-officio member of their councils (together with Vice-President George Bush), who in turn will be directly responsible to the President.

The reorganization's most prominent conservatives - Mr. Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, and Mr. William Casey, the director for the CIA. However, both men, as members of the National Security Council, will continue to exert influence over formulation of foreign policy.

New Cabinet named in Sudan

From Paul Valley, Khartoum

Rebel southerners in Sudan have reacted coolly to the appointment of the country's new Cabinet.

The clandestine radio station of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army yesterday accorded the new Prime Minister, Dr. Gurgul Dabbala, the description of "a very respectable citizen" but said that this meant little so long as the Cabinet was responsible to the military junta of General Saeed al-Dahab.

In the capital, leaders of the Southern Sudanese in Khartoum group (SSK), the only body of southerners which refused to collaborate with the Nimeiry Government, expressed disquiet that only three ministries had been allocated to southerners, who deserved five to match their proportion in the population.

They objected particularly to the appointment of Mr. Oliver Battail Albino as Minister of Labour, because of a case of alleged corruption against him

Shellfire interrupts ceasefire party

From Robert Fisk, Majdeyoun, outside Sidon

The Phalangists called it a withdrawal. Some of their gunmen even wore small plastic party hats as if they had something to celebrate. A girl with a crucifix round her neck said there really was a ceasefire - she carried a set of carefully folded flags containing the Phalangist triangular cedar tree emblem.

Even when a Phalangist mortar position sent three rounds into the city not far away, she insisted that the shells were incoming. Ceasefires are rather like that in Lebanon.

Gilbert Ghosline, commander of the 450 Christian militiamen who were supposed to be pulled back from their front lines in eastern Sidon yesterday, ordered a small convoy of mobile anti-aircraft guns - old Soviet models captured long ago from Palestinian guerrillas - to parade past his barracks on the hill above Sidon. By this evening, he said all his men would be back in Beirut. The remaining militiamen who lived in the area will all have gone home.

Mr. Ghosline, a third-year business administration student at St. Joseph's University, preferred not to talk about the imminent Israeli military withdrawal, nor the mutiny in the Phalangist ranks which brought him to power.

A balding man with thin, gold-framed spectacles, he wished to emphasize the success that the Lebanese Army had already achieved in taking over positions vacated by the Phalangists. Sixty soldiers, he said, had moved into the areas around Qunaya and the ceasefire was being maintained by the Phalangists.

It was about then that an outgoing mortar shell could be heard, evidently fired from a Phalangist position a few hundred yards from Mr. Ghosline's barracks. One of his assistants, a girl called Soraya in a shocking pink pullover, immediately announced that this was an incoming shell, proof that the Lebanese Muslim militia and Palestinian did not respect the Phalangist unilateral truce. There was another, similar report which brought forth equal protestations of innocence.

Outside, in the little barracks house, a group of Phalangist artillerymen were proclaiming their pleasure at returning home to Beirut, slightly uneasy at what will happen when they leave. There are up to 25,000 Christians in the hills east of Sidon.

But by dusk an unusual calm had enveloped Sidon. A Palestinian guerrilla and a Lebanese soldier had been killed in the day's fighting but it was possible, for the first time in the month, to drive through the front line near the centre of the city and take the coast road to Beirut.

When the 450 Phalangists from the capital have driven their battered trucks across the old river bridge at Bisi and put them on board the ageing ferry boat at Jijeh, the Christian families above Sidon will be the first to hope that the ceasefire is real.

Twilight days of Tarzan pal

Los Angeles (Reuters) - He likes an occasional cigar and a glass of brandy, he has an occasional stroll in the neighbourhood or goes for a quiet drive to pass the time.

But it is a different life for Chetta the chimpanzee, who perhaps still remembers his Hollywood glory when he starred in films as the companion of Tarzan, played by Johnny Weissmuller or Lex Barker, and Jane, played by Maureen O'Sullivan.

Today Chetta, once a renowned scene-stealer, lives in retirement on a small ranch on the outskirts of Los Angeles with his owner and old friend, Tony Gentry.

Chetta is about 50 years old but he can still go through his old Tarzan routines, standing on his hind legs and clapping with his feet, doing somersaults and curling his top lip to give a big, yellow grin.

But most of the time Chetta sits back on Mr. Gentry's couch and rests. "We've got a lot of roads together and we're getting old," Mr. Gentry said.

Mr. Gentry, aged 78, and Chetta have been retired for five years.



High drama: A man who tried to jump from the sixth floor of a hospital in Worcester, Massachusetts, was saved at the last moment by Peter Mancuso, left, and Garry Montiverdi.

Huge crowds gather to bid farewell to Neves

Sao Paulo - Huge crowds of Brazilians, at least two million in Sao Paulo, and a third of Brasilia's million inhabitants, followed the cortege of President-elect Tancredino Neves on its journey to the presidential palace (Patrick Knight writes).

A service in the capital yesterday was attended by the heads of state of Portugal, Venezuela, Uruguay, Colombia and Paraguay, and by representatives of many other countries. Senhor Neves died in Sao Paulo on Sunday.

What he never achieved in life - ascending the main ceremonial ramp of the presidential palace and wearing the

presidential sash he came so close to putting of five weeks ago - was achieved by Senhor Neves in death, as his coffin was borne on the shoulders of six cadets.

Thousands of people, many in tears, queued to pay their last respects to a man many said had been Brazil's best President. The past couple of days have seen a massive expression of public grief, tinged with frustration.

Big crowds also gathered as the body was brought to Belo Horizonte, capital of Minas Gerais state, for which Senhor Neves had been senator and governor.

New faces in the Politburo

Gorbachov goes for vigour



The promotion of Viktor Chebrikov, aged 62, to full Politburo membership confirms Gorbachov's support for Mr. Gorbachov during his manouvering for power which preceded the death of Chernenko. General Chebrikov, who had been Yuri Andropov's deputy at the KGB, made clear his personal support for Mr. Gorbachov by barely mentioning Chernenko in public speeches. A KGB whispering campaign also undermined the declining Chernenko and his image as acting leader.

General Chebrikov, a large man with a steely gaze, joined the party in 1944. He made his early career in the party structure at Dnepropetrovsk in the Ukraine, which brought him close to Leonid Brezhnev. After Brezhnev's overthrow of Khrushchev, Mr. Chebrikov joined the KGB as head of personnel, becoming deputy head of the secret police only a year later.

He became KGB Chairman in December, 1982, one of Andropov's first promotions, gaining the rank of general in November, 1983.



Mr. Nikolai Ryzhkov, who is of the same generation as Mr. Gorbachov, has had a meteoric political career since leaving soviet industry, where he had experience of management.

Mr. Ryzhkov, aged 55, graduated in engineering from the Urals Polytechnic in Sverdlovsk, and became a foreman of a local heavy machine building plant. He worked his way up to be chief engineer, then plant director, becoming at the age of 41 head of the important Uralmash conglomerate, which controls all heavy engineering in the Urals.

From there Mr. Ryzhkov moved to government as Deputy Minister for Heavy and Transport Engineering in 1975 and deputy head of Gosplan, the planning agency, four years later.

His rise to the top began with his appointment by Andropov as a Central Committee secretary in 1982. Seeing him as the kind of technocrat, Russia badly needed with a solid industrial background, Andropov put him in charge of the newly streamlined Economic Department.

Pretoria rounds up black dissidents

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South African security police yesterday arrested three leading black members of the United Democratic Front, an extra-parliamentary alliance of anti-apartheid groups, which was accused last week by President Botha of trying to foment revolution.

Those detained were Mr. Poppo Mofokeng, the UDF secretary, Mr. Patrick "Terro" Lekota, publicity secretary, and Mr. Moss Shikane, a leading activist in the Pretoria area. All three were held for a period last year and released without charge.

They were virtually the only senior UDF office-holders still outside jail. Sixteen other African and Indian UDF leaders are in prison awaiting trial for treason or on alternative charges under the Internal Security Act. The trial is to start on May 20.

Lawyers for the three arrested men said they understood they were being held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act, which allows people suspected of a security offence to be held indefinitely for interrogation, usually in solitary confinement.

Police headquarters in Pretoria said: "... The cases relate to unrest in the Vaal Triangle in August and September (of last year)." Spokesmen for the UDF pointed out, however, that the arrests came after a recent conference held by the organization at which Mr. Lekota announced the UDF's intention to organize demonstrations against a planned tour later in the year by the New Zealand All Blacks rugby team.

Mr. Lekota, whose sobriquet "Terro" refers not to his political views but to his prowess as a footballer, became chief spokesman for the UDF in the enforced absence of most of the rest of its leadership. Like other UDF leaders, he has repeatedly stated his opposition to violence.

In a speech to the white chamber of Parliament last Thursday, Mr. Botha claimed the UDF was an "internal extension" of the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party, both banned organizations.

In another development, sources said the law banning racially-mixed political parties could be repealed before the end of the present parliamentary session.

Mass grave in Algeria has evidence of torture

Algiers (AFP) - A mass grave containing the remains of at least 62 people, apparently killed by French troops during Algeria's independence war, has been uncovered here near the city of Constantine, officials said.

The discovery was made by chance by a farmer who found a human skull and other bones on the ground in the locality of El Machira. Many of the victims appeared to have been women and children and examination of the bones revealed smashed skulls and amputated hands, suggesting the victims were tortured.

During the eight-year war which ended in 1962, the area round El Machira was a French military zone.

Kabul summit

Islamabad (Reuters) - Afghanistan's President Karmal opened a grand tribal assembly, the "Loya Jirga", in Kabul in a bid to gain popular support for the war against Muslim guerrillas. Kabul radio said 1,996 delegates, four times any previous gathering, were attending.

Wine crime

Vienna (Reuters) - Tests on high-quality Austrian wines from Burgenland province and other areas show some enterprises are still using illegal chemicals and sugar. Herr Gunter Halden, the Agriculture Minister, said this was outlawed and must stop.

Sweeter Coke

New York (AP) - Coca-Cola announced a new, sweeter formula which will start appearing on American store shelves on May 8. Its rival, Pepsi, countered by saying Coke was clearly admitting "it's not the real thing."

Soldiers killed

Hereford (Reuters) - Two British soldiers were killed and six others injured when their lorry overturned near a British Army base at Sennelagen, West Germany.

Siege over

Three Brothers, Arkansas (Reuters) - James Ellison, leader of a US neo-Nazi group, the Covenant, the Sword and the Arm of the Lord, surrendered to law enforcement officials after a four-day siege of his heavily armed compound here.

Aids boy

Stockholm (Reuters) - A nine-year-old haemophilic boy died in hospital in southern Sweden at the weekend after contracting Aids from blood plasma.

Missile waste

Washington (Reuters) - The US military conducted 7,900 practice firings of sophisticated missiles last year at a cost of \$400 million (\$230 million) and most served no useful purpose, a congressional committee has found.

Writer's award

Madrid (Reuters) - Argentine writer Ernesto Sabato, who headed an inquiry into the disappearance of thousands of people under Argentina's military dictatorship, received from King Juan Carlos Spain's highest literary prize, the Miguel de Cervantes, worth 10 million pesetas (\$44,000).

Book find

Kyoto (AFP) - A copy of the original edition of the 17th-century philosopher Descartes' *Discourse on Method* has been found in Kyoto University. It had been bought in Germany in 1932.

Miners' mine

Sydney (Reuters) - One of Australia's most militant trade unions, the Miners' Federation, is to open its own coal mine with all profits pledged to New South Wales for the development of education, health and community facilities.

Athos secrets

Athens (AP) - Pricelless ecclesiastical treasures from the 1000-year-old, all-male monastic community of Mt. Athos will be displayed in public for the first time at a special exhibition later this year in Salonika.

Hopes of truce in tit-for-tat expulsions

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The British Ambassador in Moscow, Sir Iain Sutherland, said yesterday that Britain hoped the present spate of tit-for-tat diplomatic expulsions would not adversely affect the "genuinely improving climate" of Anglo-Soviet relations.

The Russians, too, appeared keen to limit the damage to trade and commerce, though there were still fears that a further two Britons could be ordered to leave, to even the tally of expulsions to five on each side. There is also doubt over the forthcoming visit to Britain by Mr. Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister.

The three British diplomats who have been ordered to leave Russia - Captain John Marshall, the Naval Attaché, Lieutenant-Commander Martin Littleboy, his assistant, and Miss Carol Robson, Second Secretary (Scientific) - were yesterday preparing to leave. They have been given 14 days to get out of the Soviet Union, but may leave sooner.

Captain Marshall, aged 47, who has three children in England, arrived at the end of June last year. He said he was "frankly disappointed at having my job cut short in mid-stream". He was completely

innocent of espionage charges, he said.

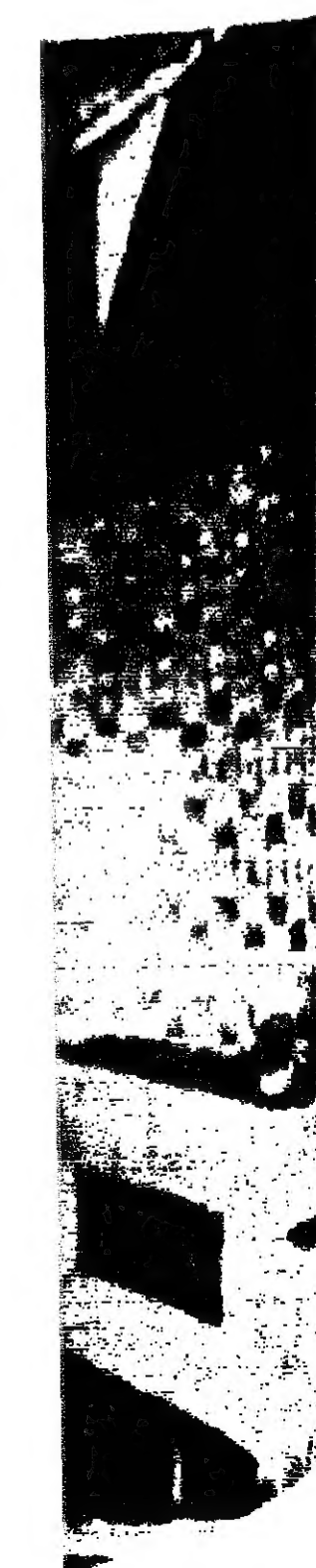
Lieutenant-Commander Littleboy, who is married with no children, has been in Moscow for 18 months. Diplomats pointed out the Russians could have chosen Lieutenant-Commander John Hardie, the other assistant naval attaché, who is due to leave Moscow this summer.

Miss Robson, aged 30, joined the commercial section of the Embassy a year ago to cover scientific matters. She had formerly served in Ulan Bator, Mongolia.

Observers said the Russians had decided to cause maximum inconvenience in response to Britain's expulsion last week of the Soviet assistant naval attaché and an Aeroflot official for spying. The Kremlin had turned down a deal offered by the Foreign Office under which the three latest Russians to be expelled from London - Captain Viktor Zaitkin, assistant naval attaché, Lieutenant-Colonel Vadim Cherkasov, assistant military attaché, and Mr. Oleg Belaventsev, Third Secretary - could have left quietly, provided Moscow had refrained from retaliation against the first two expulsions.

hum change into storm

ministers forced price decision



GLC

THE ARTS

The new *Oxford Companion to English Literature* is published tomorrow; it has cost Margaret Drabble, as editor, five years of a busy life: interview by Caroline Moorehead

Long march through the foothills

This week, with tomorrow's much heralded publication of the new *Oxford Companion to English Literature*, there comes to an end what for one writer - and a fast and prolific writer of novels at that - has been a singularly long and sustained bout of work. For over five years Margaret Drabble has been compiling a revised edition: 9,000 entries, a full-time assistant, some 30 contributors, a prodigious feat of literary organization and appraisal. There were, she says, times of panic, "when it seemed it would never end, and the lists of things to check seemed to start reproducing themselves". She feels some relief to be free. "Except that in a sense I'll never be free. People will complain about it all my life."

The offer to take on the *Companion* came from the Oxford University Press "by letter, out of the blue". Drabble went to meet the board of selectors, uneasily aware that there must be some among them bound to object to such a seemingly inappropriate choice. "An outsider, a woman, a novelist - and from Cambridge. How could I have been worse?" Because she was not at that stage all that certain herself, the meeting stayed light-hearted. "We ended up joking, everyone searching through the old *Companion* for mistakes, saying 'Surely you can do better than this'."

Yet the prospect was daunting. There had been no thorough revision since Sir Paul Harvey, retired civil servant with an idiosyncratic vision of his own, was invited at the end of the 1920s by the OUP to produce something for literature along the lines of Brewer's *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable*, with English authors, plots of their works and their characters. Successive volumes, edited first by Harvey (who, one year, put in vintage

wines and motor cars, then took them out smartly next time round) and later by Dorothy Eagle, involved no major new typesetting.

What Drabble was asked to do was a "radical rewrite". Did she hesitate? Her reply is precise. "It would have been cowardly to say 'no'." I said how enjoyable her entries were to read. "I hope so. It's meant to be readable. Not a list of things. Even jokes creep in. Harvey was browsey too, but in a different way, like the names of dogs belonging to landowners. I think I have a wider range of literary interests."

What, then, did she do to it? In her preface, Drabble announces that her intention, like Sir Paul Harvey's, was to provide a "useful companion to ordinary everyday readers of English literature". However, to make room for the new entries and expand the old ones, some ruthless pruning had to be done. Harvey's "allusions commonly met with, or likely to be met with" are mostly gone. Thus "Abaddon... the angel of the bottomless pit" is out, and so is Abaris, said to have ridden through the air on an arrow.

By contrast, there have been generous expansions. Jane Austen, to whom Harvey devoted a bare half-column, now gets nearly two, which allows for a more discursive tone. "Her life," writes the new editor, "is notable for its lack of event; she did not marry, although she had several suitors, one of whom she accepted one evening only to withdraw her acceptance the following morning." Drabble says firmly that there are no entire areas of omission, but admits to a few small holes and to some over-long entries. She declines to say which. Some, she adds, are too short.



Margaret Drabble: "People will complain about it all my life"

"Stevie Smith should have had two more lines."

Work on the *Companion* was carried out in a small upstairs room in the house on the edge of Hampstead she has lived in for the last 19 years. Her assistant, Jenny Stringer, a purist, provided the essential spirit of organization. "I'm organized in terms of my life. I don't run out of milk and I answer my post promptly. But novels have a different technique: you have to allow mess." Both women spent much time in libraries - "A wonderful education. I can't tell you how nice it is to know I can now look up things I don't know in my own book."

The obsession with the *Companion* grew. It ousted all other dinner-party conversation and, bit by bit, other work: teaching, the odd bit of journalism, public speaking, the rather pleasurable literary committee work and even a novel, subsequently lost. Halfway through it all she married Michael Holroyd ("... the married Michael Holroyd" born in London and educated at Eton... greatly contributed to a revival of

interest in the art of biography..."). Modestly, Drabble herself does not appear in her own *Companion* (nor does she list her many literary prizes in *Who's Who*). She certainly should, the cut-off year, a date reached arbitrarily but of necessity. Bob Dylan was all set to go in, her son Adam having laboured all day on his entry. Then they found he was not born until the following year. "At least, that's what he claims," she says sternly and with doubt. "He must be alone. Think he could have been listed as 'one of the great modern poets'."

The bulk of the *Companion* was delivered last April: proofs took her until Christmas. Since then she has returned to writing fiction, a tenth novel, staying, while actually writing, in a rented house in Somerset. "I need to be alone. I have to drive myself into the nasty bits of writing. Sometimes I ask myself why I do it. It's like climbing up a very steep hill, forcing your legs all the way. It can be extraordinarily unpleasant. Though the view can be wonderful. That's why the *Companion* was such fun:

lots of little hills, little essays, little marches forward."

Away from the enforced solitude of writing, her life is full. There is the house in Hampstead, Victorian, comfortable, a little shabby, full of green potted plants and dark wall-papers, home for the three children. (No regrets about them being grown up. "I quite often dream I have a horrible little baby and wake up intensely relieved it's not mine. It's a dream of horror, not longing.") There is Michael Holroyd's house in West London: "We're very unorthodox really: neither of us has a pattern. And there is the house in Somerset. 'I live all over the place. Today I shall buy three pairs of glasses, to have one in each house. That's the kind of solution that arrives only late in life.' The five years on the fringes of academia have been just about enough. "No, I wouldn't like to be in that world." She ponders. "No, I don't like being tied to anything. I don't like having to answer to anyone."

James Fenton will review the new *Oxford Companion* on tomorrow's Books Page.

Television

Getting bemused

Give Patrick Moore a studio and he transports you to the stars with his enthusiasm and knowledge. Give James Burke the world and he hops about like a flea on heat, making precious little sense at all.

In his personal view of *The Day the Universe Changed* (BBC1) - a costly, over-produced (10-part) Burke has only to mention Jamaica for him to be whisked off there to finish his sentence, or "plantation owners" for perspiring actors to stroll into view. One is so bemused by the ever-rolling background that attention strays from the presenter. Not that what he says is all that interesting for, bless his velvet jacket, Mr Burke is no Bronowski. He also exudes a sense that he has learnt his lines instead of written them. His eyes constantly look down to what one can only guess is a script he still does not understand.

Last night's whistle-stop tour of world history, *Credit Where it's Due*, began with a shot of him drinking a cocktail. "This is the life," he said, and then got down to the more onerous task of explaining how profits from sugar-cane went the way of English aristocrats, having been beamed on to a lawn where he was served tea. Burke walked about a country house, cup in hand, before warning us he had better sit down for what promised to be "weighty stuff". A problem arose, he expounded, his eyes wandering lap-wards, of too much cash and not enough flow (more a

problem of the programme, I would have thought, than eighteenth-century Britain). It was solved by Dutch bankers with whom our relations were good because "in 1688, we invited a Dutchman over to be, kind of King".

Dissenters used this banking system to invest in coal-mining, road- and canal-building and, via distilleries - an excuse for a much-needed whisky - into harnessing steam power for railways. Consumerism had arrived. "Get it?", he kept saying optimistically. I'm afraid I kind of didn't.

Less ambitiously, Barbara Castle restricted her durable, single-minded self to the last 10 years in *The 20th Century Remembered* (BBC1). Interviewed at home by Donald MacCormick against a backdrop of dried flowers, she revealed how Denis Healey heard of Harold Wilson's resignation on the lavatory and how, when Callaghan sacked her to make room for a younger person, "I nearly said well, why don't you start with yourself first". Her mouth twitched like a beautiful red butterfly caught in a spider's web as she regretted Tony Benn's failure to become leader of the Labour Party and our entry into the EEC. One way she eliminates the evils of the world is by wedding and spring-cleaning. Another is by vigorously promoting her brand of socialism. Would she retire from that? "Never."

Nicholas Shakespeare

Preview

Star teaching star

"Ballerina is human" are the first words spoken by Natalia Makarova in the unexpected documentary film *A Class of Her Own* to be shown on Channel 4 tonight. To see stars giving master classes is not uncommon nowadays, but in this instance, Makarova shows herself, the leading ballerina of her generation, not giving but receiving a private class and docilely, even happily, accepting reproofs and corrections from the teacher.

Makarova performs what looks like a flawless sequence of movement, then tries it all over again - because in the eyes of Irina Yacovson and herself, it was not right the first time. Luckily there is not only their conversation but also a commentary by Makarova to make clear what they are getting at.

The idea of making the programme was Makarova's. Inspiration came, she says, with Irina Yacovson's arrival in the West and the memories that provoked of her studies as a girl at the Leningrad Ballet School. The teaching system there was developed by a former dancer, Agrippina Vaganova, and Yacovson - or Irina Pevsner as she was then - had been one of Vaganova's last pupils before her death in 1951.

"She became a classical ballerina," Makarova says, "but then she became ill and was out for three years. She returned as a character dancer, married Leonid Yacovson and became his assistant." Yacovson was a choreographer. "When I came from the school he just grabbed

me and started creating pieces on me - Mayakovsky's *The Bedbug*, *The Land of Miracles* and others. "I didn't like the classical line, and would say 'Stop doing these ugly things'. He used turned-in movement. Like Fokine. He wanted to see a dancer very expressive in the torso, just moving. I had a very flexible body and he gave me this kind of freedom in the torso, which I can use even in the classics and makes my performance individual."

"In 1970 he invited me to join a small company he was running, a chamber ballet company, but although I was waiting to change I thought you can't go from the Kirov to this. That was when I came to the West. Since then he died and two years ago Irina came out as a Jewish emigrant. I made private classes with her, introduced her to John Neumeier who engaged her for Hamburg, and also to the Royal Ballet where she taught. And then came the idea to record the Vaganova teaching on film."

As a contrast, Makarova and the director Derek Bailey included sequences with Roland Petit to illustrate one of the different influences she came under in the West which have modified her style. As a further contrast, she and Bailey have since been working on more conventional kind of star documentary, this time jointly for National Video and the BBC.

John Percival

Opera

Tippett's piercing vision lacking thrust

King Priam
Covent Garden

A crouching ovation of an extremely grudging nature greeted the revival on Monday night of Tippett's *King Priam* (at least until the composer appeared on stage, when the audience finally brightened up). Admittedly there are still problems in this strange opera, admittedly the Royal Opera's staging is fading fast, and admittedly there were some musical drawbacks to the evening. But *King Priam* remains a compelling, piercingly original, profoundly disturbing opera, among the greatest half-dozen of the twentieth century, I would say, and any audience that cannot perceive at least something of its genius needs its collective head examining.

It is true that the Covent Garden production, originally

staged in Coventry in 1962 by Sam Wanamaker and now revived by Andre Anderson, is plain to a fault. But I have not seen the widely-praised Kenji Opera production, and I came to know the opera through the London Sinfonietta's superb recording. The schematic way in which the relationships are laid out on Sean Kenny's aching stage, mirrors quite adequately the extreme (and untidy) clarity of Tippett's libretto, and only the garish back projections and the obsolete Star Wars machine that dominates the battle scenes are grating.

What this revival lets us hear is the psychological penetration of Tippett's daring writing, which juxtaposes wildly contrasting material for the different characters, and makes it work as an illustration of their contrasting temperaments: Hecuba's fiery violins (here played, as was originally intended, by a scuttering *tutti* and not by a soloist), Andromache's

cellos. Priam's lugubrious bass instruments.

Perhaps the predominately two-part textures seem too thin for a house the size of Covent Garden; but that helps the words to come across from most of the characters with unusual clarity. Not, alas, from Alexander Malta as King Priam, unaccountably chosen to make his house debut in a role that did not suit his voice or his language; we look forward to hearing him as Boris or Fasolt. But from Paris, both as the superb boy Nicholas Sillitoe, and as the lithe, vivid adult Robin Leggate, the agony of choice and the aching joy of passion emerge strongly.

The other singer who makes a very strong impression is Felicity Palmer as Andromache (she is making a long-delayed house debut, and is the only singer in the cast borrowed from the recording). She is tempted to press too hard on the notes, which is unnecessary, since her depth of feeling is clear enough. Phyllis Cannan, more at home on this stage, conveys Hecuba's single-minded determination - all the

fiercer in contrast to Priam's ambivalence - with great strength.

There are very few set-pieces in *Priam* to compare with the cut and thrust of the sharp-edged dialogue (perhaps an other reason for audience discontent) but Anne Howell makes a highlight of her last-act aria, and the final scene, of reconciliation with Priam is moving. The trio of the Nurse (Elizabeth Bainbridge), the Old Man (John Gibbs) and the young guard (Hugh Featherington), whose secret refusal to kill the baby Paris sparks off the drama, make an impressive chorus, but they are unimaginatively directed.

Elgar Howarth, conducting here for the first time, draws some remarkably sure playing from the solo instruments, and both piano (amplified) and guitar solos were excellent. All that is missing is the real grip and projection which would thrust this great story at us, instead of allowing us to take it or leave it.

Nicholas Kenyon



Tragic climax: the death of Priam

The maturity demonstrated by the Alexander String Quartet came as a heartening surprise, considering the relative youth of the players. This American ensemble, winners of the 1985 City of Portsmouth Prize, were expert enough to achieve a stunning degree of ensemble in the Allegro-Pizzicato of Bartok's Fourth Quartet and also a fresh modernity in Beethoven's E minor "Razumovsky" that each made a profound effect. Their leader is no megalomaniac, and the balance achieved is entirely natural, players emerging and receding with musicality. Occasionally the cellist was a shade too conspicuous, but this never obscured the high spontaneity of these performances.

The New Chamber Orchestra of Stockholm under Iona Brown's vivacious direction presented a light programme of

London debuts Stunning ensemble

works for strings with an engrossing unity of purpose. Tchaikovsky's *Souvenir de Florence* may not sound exactly Italianate, but the orchestra's broad line in the opening movement and feeling for that special brand of Russian sentimentality in the succeeding Adagio conjured up an intensely evocative image. An ability gradually to accumulate sonority, and yet never to become raw, was an indication of the players' quality. Dag Wren's slightly hackneyed Serenade sprang to life under their delicately detailed attack, and this opened the concert in an ideally springlike mood.

Continuing the "Sounds of

Sweden" series at the Wigmore Hall, a group of four lieder singers each presented a short programme. The mezzo Maria Höglund utilized the light and sombre timbres of a fine voice, but, though individual sounds were frequently moving, they somehow did not connect into flowing phrases. Nevertheless, she poured out her heart in the plaintive recitative style of Sigurd Koch's "In the Tea Field" and also assured one of her higher range in Granados's "La maja dolorosa". One could not fault the basic expressivity of the voice, only perhaps its adaptability in characterization.

Urban Malberg, a baritone who featured as a boy soprano in Bergman's televised *Magis Flute* production, is now embarking on an operatic career. He is 23 and despite a small frame tends towards the bass end of the register, as was

displayed in a dissipated song by Ture Rangström. Though facially expressive, his projection of the meaning of the text in two operatic arias remained unconvincing. Technique was uppermost, as was an all-too-obvious concern to vary his voice.

I should like to hear the soprano Hillevi Martinpelto in the role of Adele in *Die Fledermaus*. Though perhaps her high range is a little insecure, she has a relaxed delivery that is charmingly naive. Five of Hugo Wolf's Italian lieder were her main contribution, and though loud notes were a little over-insistent, there was admirable breadth in "Oh, wärde ich Haus durchsichtig". The aria "Pace, pace" from Verdi's *La forza del destino* was the coup de grâce and here she became transformed into a singer of real potential: she focused her voice into an uplifting mood of noble purity.

Sonny Wallentin, a tenor and the last of the group, embarked upon a professional singing career in his early thirties, and an Italian vocal training is uppermost in his artistry, as was evident in his choice of arias by Bellini, Puccini and Leoncavallo. But his striving to achieve an Italian ambience led to some sobbing histrionics in "Vesti la giubba" from *Pagliacci* that were simply funny rather than musically potent.

It is with a feeling of privilege that I write about the British cellist Timothy Hugh. On paper his solo programme looked forbiddingly esoteric - the three Britten Suites and Peter Sculthorpe's *Requiem* - but in this recital one became oblivious to the identity of the composer, such was the degree of concentration that the player elicited from the audience. He has taken this music deeply into himself and succeeds in projecting it because his intellect, though authoritative, is accessible. Mr Hugh is much more than just a cellist, he is a musician with a compelling insight into the creative urge behind the notes.

James Methuen-Campbell



Joanna Lumley
appeals

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Philharmonia/ Sinopoli

Festival Hall/Radio 3

Après Wagner le déluge. The Philharmonia had planned a particularly enticing programme showing how Ravel and Scriabin, in their different ways, took shelter from the musical and temporal chaos around them just before the First World War. Where, then, was their audience? It was rather like a Monday night at the theatre: too many empty seats and too little feedback, except, alas, from a rebellious

amplification system whose speakers decided to boycott the beginning of *Bohème*.

Even the spirit of Saint-Saëns, unaware and blissful in his Third Concerto, was a little dampened. Salvatore Accardo was right to make his violin an only reluctant virtuoso. Ravel's *Le Tombeur* was a masterpiece. As an attempt to realize Scriabin's own albeit feeble ideal of "a musical phrase ending in a scent, a chord resolved into a colour, a melodic line whose climax becomes a caress", it admitted defeat too soon.

Where the artifice, miniaturism and near-fragmentary nuances of Ravel's homage to the eighteenth century proved so successful.

The problem with his opening - Schubert's *Rondo brillante*, D895 - seemed to be his stylistic indecisiveness. His playing fluctuated between big-toned flourishes and strange, rather jerky articulations; but in this extended piece with its seeds to be in no doubt of either his technique or his approach.

There were occasional intonation problems in Dvořák's Four Romantic Pieces too - but here Shumsky was much surer of his ground. He laid on the

Concerts

shelter in a search for transcendental ecstasy through sound, would have had to admit failure on Monday. As a piece of prismatist orchestration, a dance of instrumental and rhythmic detail, Giuseppe Sinopoli's performance of *Le Poème de l'exase* was a masterpiece. As an attempt to realize Scriabin's own albeit feeble ideal of "a musical phrase ending in a scent, a chord resolved into a colour, a melodic line whose climax becomes a caress", it admitted defeat too soon.

Where the artifice, miniaturism and near-fragmentary nuances of Ravel's homage to the eighteenth century proved so successful.

vided another form of aesthetic escape, things were happier. The Philharmonia, in particular the wind soloists, seemed to enjoy the vision of music transfixed by its own image, which was created so potently in their post-impetuous *Le Tombeur*. The performance of *Bohème* was a masterpiece, though its classic, with its coarsely caricatured solos and its percussion acting as a battering ram laying siege to the twentieth century. Only those perverse creatures like me with a gut antipathy to the work could have found the performance so refreshing.

Hilary Finch

Shumsky/Vignoles

St John's/Radio 3

If Oscar Shumsky had begun this recital in the sort of form he finished it - with an account of Hindemith's *Sonata in D*, Op 11 No 2, that was apt in style and rich in emotion - it would have been a sunny luncheon indeed.

The florid chromatic counterpoints of Hindemith's outer movements were projected by Shumsky and the pianist Roger Vignoles (an equal partner in

this turbulent dialogue) with inspired vigour. In the slow central movement the violinist developed an arch-shaped pattern of intensity, rising from a noble, restrained opening to a superbly controlled outburst of rhapsody, before subsiding to a remarkable close - hollow and without vibrato. In this 1918 composition the young Hindemith seems to cast as many backward glances at late Romantic lyricism as he makes progressive gestures - and it was this radiant retrospective quality that Shumsky developed

charm liberally, investing Dvořák's already rather sugary melodies with plenty of ripe portamento, flamboyant tonal variation and, in the Allegretto section, some bounding Slavonic-style bowing that brought a great excitement to the music. Best of all, however, was his ending of the celebrated Larghetto: having charmed us with some affecting double-stoppings he relaxed and produced a beautiful, dusky tone for the elegiac close.

Richard Morrison



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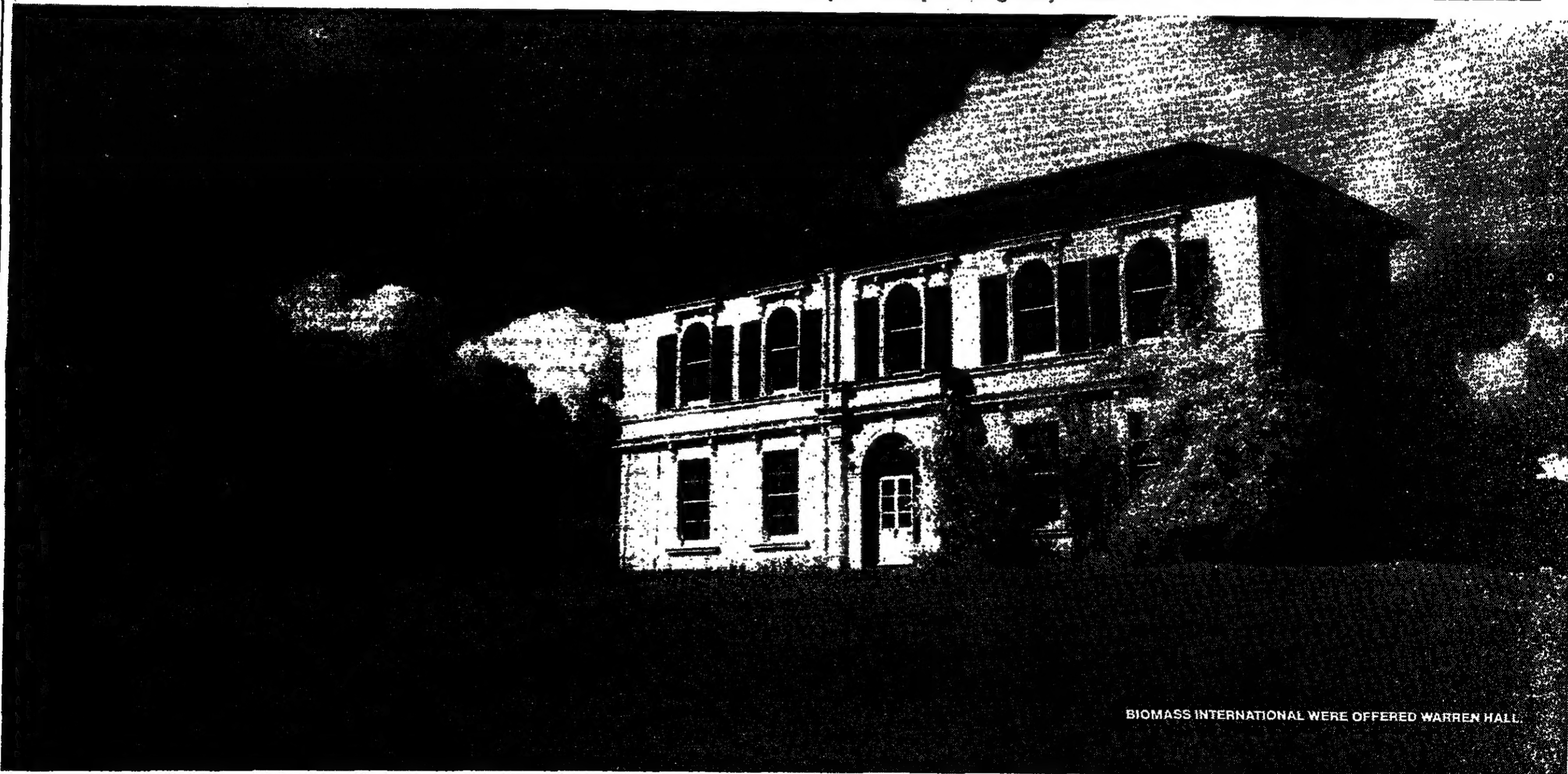
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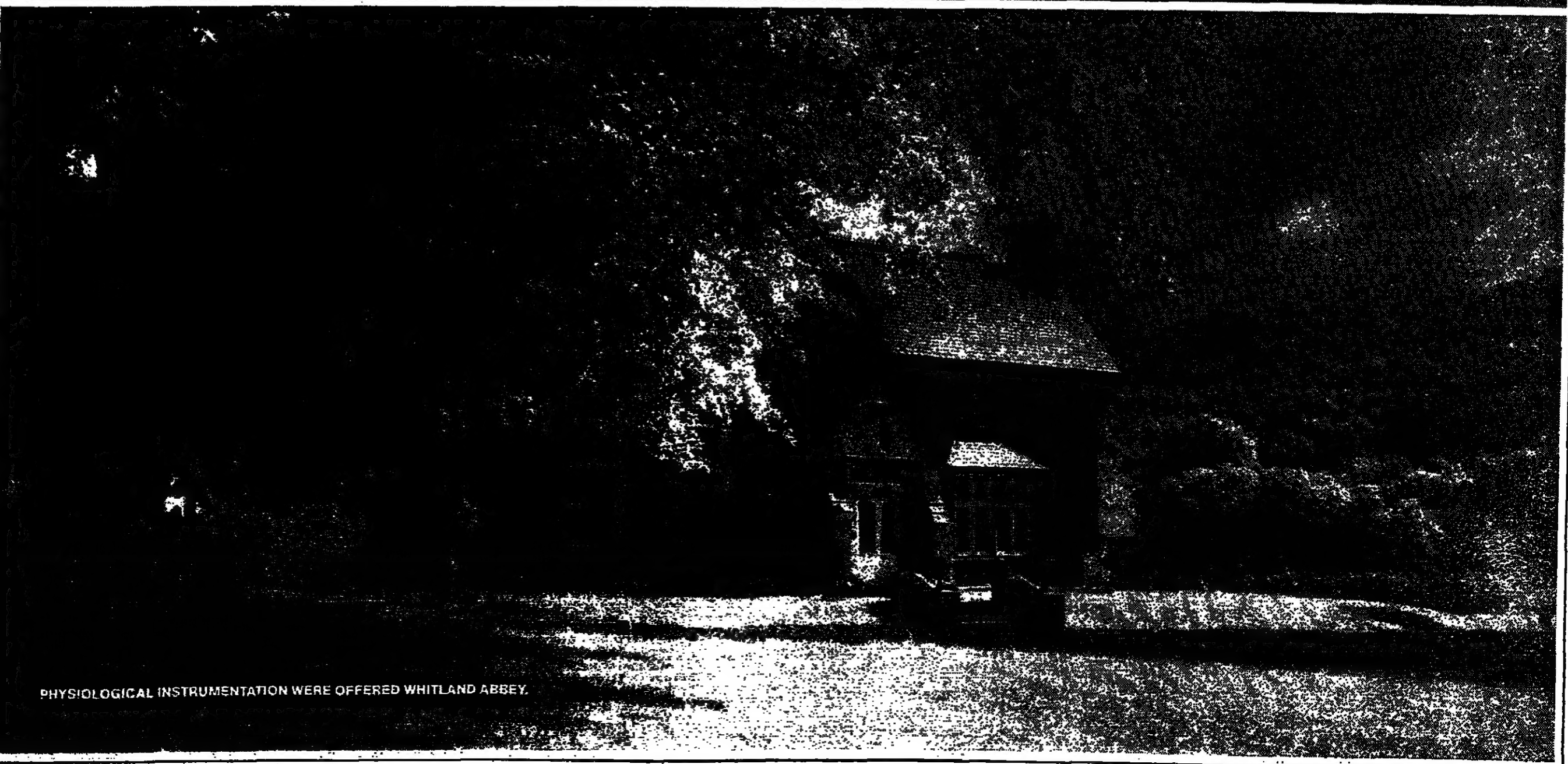
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SPECTRUM

In his final report, Derek Harris looks at the tobacco barons' search for new markets in their battle for survival

Poorer countries where cigarettes still sell

THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY

Smoking is declining in most of the West, but still going up in Russia, China, Italy, Spain, Greece and some poorer Third World countries - along with their incidence of lung cancer deaths

World cigarette production in 1982 was 4,569,597 million which might turn out to be an historic figure. It could have been the highest peak for the cigarette, as a global pattern of decline begins.

Ever since cigarette-making machinery ushered in cheaper smoking in the second half of the last century, cigarette production has been climbing. The 1982 production peak was 17 per cent up on the average production during the years 1974 to 1978.

It is the United States Department of Agriculture which attempts the singularly difficult task of drawing up statistics for world cigarette production and it was in 1983 that the USDA charted a sign of faltering. Production dropped 0.1 per cent compared to 1982 when there had been a growth of 0.19 per cent over the previous year. It is clearly a minor shift, although it represents a lot of cigarettes - rather more than 4.5 billion to be reasonably precise.

There is, however, some indication that the process of decline continued last year. World leaf tobacco production in 1983 was 6.99 million tonnes, according to the Commonwealth Secretariat. In 1983 production dropped 13 per cent and then last year another 1.6 per cent. Areas under cultivation for tobacco also reduced last year by some 50,000 hectares or just over 1 per cent.

There is other evidence. BAT, the world's largest tobacco company and probably the biggest single exporter with a brand leader in no less than 34 countries, has built up a formidable market intelligence. It estimates that in the industrialized countries cigarette consumption was down about 1 per cent last year. This year it is looking for a return to some slight growth. In lesser developed countries there was a decline of about 2 per cent.

Obviously, lesser developed countries are potentially big growth areas for cigarette smoking. Consumption in such countries does however appear to depend on the relative economic progress in such areas, which means that some are likely to be slow in becoming big users of commercially made cigarettes. Certainly, consumption per head in less developed countries is often only a fraction of that in the industrialized nations.

Cigarette consumption as an

average per inhabitant ranges between 2,500 and just over 3,000 a year, in a variety of developed countries including north America and Japan, according to the Centre for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia. But the 10 lowest totals, all in lesser developed countries, are all put below 150 a year.

What this presumably leaves out of the account is how far, in poorer countries, people grow and roll their own. Dr Keith Ball, a physician at Central Middlesex Hospital, near London, has made a number of studies in various parts of the world and points out that this backyard production of tobacco can be a noticeable element, in India for example.

Health education appears to have made the least penetration in undeveloped countries. But taxation policies could be having an impact in some of them. Sudan and Ethiopia figure among the 10 countries with the lowest per capita consumption. In both countries, tax and duty is particularly high compared with some of their neighbours, particularly in other parts of the Middle East.

'China is biggest producer of cigarettes'

Increasingly, in Arab countries health education campaigns are being pursued. Duty and tax as a percentage of price tends to run from about a third to a half although Egypt's is much higher, according to BAT. But volume sales in Egypt still rose by about 15 per cent between 1982 and 1983.

Anecdotal evidence points to a considerable incidence of cigarette smoking in eastern bloc countries, including Russia, despite a lack of advertising. Production of cigarettes in Russia is still rising, up nearly 3 per cent in 1983 compared with the year before. Bulgarian cigarette production is still going up, although in Poland it has been reducing since 1980.

China is the world's biggest producer of cigarettes, mostly for domestic consumption. There, production is still on a rising curve. In 1983 it was nearly half as much again compared to 1979.

There is evidence that deaths from lung cancer in China are rising.



according to Dr Ball, with a marked rise in such deaths in Shanghai.

Cigarette smoking is a widespread habit in Japan where about one in three adults smoke, with sales up 135 per cent since 1960. In 1948 tobacco consumption was 0.6 kilograms per head a year, but by 1980 this had more than quadrupled to 2.7 kilograms. Since 1980 there have been signs that sales have reached a plateau.

In Japan cigarette production is a state monopoly and imports in 1983 accounted for only 1.6 per cent of the market. Philip Morris accounts for about 60 per cent of the imports.

But Japan presents an apparent mystery. Tobacco-related deaths are much lower than in many developed countries. Between 1969 and 1981 the lung cancer death rate for both men and women almost doubled but in the later year the rate for men per 100,000 population was 28.7 compared with 109 in England and Wales and 10.3 for women compared with the England and Wales figure of 33.1. In 1969 the England and Wales rates were 60 for men and 13.3 for women.

The most important factor, according to Dr Ball, is that the Japanese came to smoking in large numbers comparatively late, after the Second World War. Smoking, under the age of 20, is also prohibited by law. Lung cancer rates have been shown to be higher when smoking starts at the age of 15 than when the habit is taken up at 25, Dr Ball points out. Many Japanese also apparently merely puff the smoke

into their mouths with much less inhalation into the lungs.

In most of the developed, industrialized countries, cigarette sales are either falling or have at least reached a plateau. Sales in the few still rising, notably in Europe within Italy, Spain and Greece. Australian sales appear to have peaked between 1980 and 1982 with the following year showing a downturn. There has been a similar pattern in Canada. In Brazil sales have been sliding since 1980.

In the United States the biggest sales bulge, of 627 million, came in 1981. Subsequently there has been a decline of about 5 per cent.

With this trend looking as though it will continue, it means the big American tobacco companies (the largest single concentration of tobacco manufacturing power) are

'Marlboro is best seller in world'

increasingly looking abroad for tobacco sales as well as diversifying into other activities.

R. J. Reynolds and Philip Morris are the biggest US producers, but in 1983 Reynolds was finally toppled as market leader by Philip Morris, a corporate dynamo whose aggressive earnings led to the nickname of "the Red Machine" after its dominant brand colour. Another big producer

is Brown & Williamson, the American arm of BAT.

Reynolds's brands include the historic Camel, which has been revamped. Winston, Salem and More. Morris's Marlboro is the best seller in the world as well as being the leading brand in America. Philip Morris claims to be the second largest cigarette producer worldwide, outside the various state monopolies. It claims to account for nearly 10 per cent of the world cigarette market.

The Marlboro brand started life as a product aimed at women with a red tip to hide lipstick marks. One early advertising jingle ran: "Cherry tips to match your ruby lips". It was in the middle 1950s that Marlboro went male and the Marlboro cowboy first rode out.

In 1971, Marlboro outsold any other brand world-wide for the first time. While US total sales have been sliding, the Philip Morris sales, with brands like Virginia Slims and Merit as well as Marlboro, have gone up 6 per cent in the past three years. But it has had a tougher time with its diversifications in brewing with Miller and soft drinks with Seven-Up.

American Brands, which include the British firm of Gallaher, markets Lucky Strike, Pall Mall and Carlton in America. Another US tobacco manufacturer with a British connection is Liggett & Myers which is a subsidiary of Grand Metropolitan, the hotels, drinks and leisure group. Liggett's brands in the US include Chesterfield, Lark and L & M as well

Why the Mafia gave it up

No longer do the blue speedboats engage in battles with the armed launches of the Customs police in the Bay of Naples and, being faster, often get away with their cargoes of smuggled cigarettes. Nor, for the last year or two, does a little man with a bagful of Marlboros hang around a corner behind San Silvestro, the church in Rome serving the British Roman Catholic community.

Some vendors still tour restaurants while others have taken to loading throwaway gas-filled lighters, which are smaller and easier to carry. But residents of Rome and Naples agree that the trade no longer flourishes on the scale of the 1970s.

There appear to be three reasons for this. First, the economic one. The market is in the United States brands and, like all American exports, the surge in the value of the dollar no longer allows a worthwhile margin. It is difficult to undercut the wares of the state monopoly when the dollar has doubled from 930 lire at the end of 1980 to 2,000 now.

Second, it has proved much more profitable for the families of the Naples Camorra, as the local version of the Mafia is called, to move into the drug businesses. Expensive means of transport like ships and speedboats are no longer needed, while the value-added element in each consignment is incomparably higher.

In recent years the Camorra has extended its business links to the Middle and Far East, and across the Atlantic to the US and producer countries like Colombia. This process of gaining control over supply and distribution routes brought violent gang warfare in the early 1980s. In 1981, there were 236 murders in Naples alone.

Lastly, the earthquake in November 1980 which flattened small towns east of Naples provided a godsend opportunity for diversifying into the construction business. The Prefect of Naples, in a report to Rome in March 1983, said the earthquake had "overturned the geography of Camorra power and imparted a brusque acceleration" in its transformation into building concerns. Cigarette smuggling was becoming a mere side-line.

One, Switzerland, the controversy is getting another airing. Whenever the question of the statistical correlation between smoking and diseases like lung cancer comes up, tobacco companies usually point to the lack of conclusive proof of a direct causation between smoking and various diseases. But a trial is due in California in which Reynolds is being charged with being directly to blame for a cancer death. If a tobacco company were held to be responsible for this it could be a watershed.

Apart from the US and Britain there is one other crucial power base in tobacco and that is in South Africa, home of the Rembrandt Group headed by the powerful but secretive Dr Anton Rupert, the former chemist who built his empire from selling Rothmans cigarettes. Rothmans International, like BAT based in Britain and with its sales predominantly in many foreign markets, was, in the early 1970s, the vehicle for bringing together many Rembrandt interests.

Reynolds nearly bought an interest in Rothmans just over four years ago but Philip Morris moved in and has ended up with almost a quarter of voting equity. Rembrandt is still the key shareholder with some 44 per cent of the voting rights. Clearly, while the tobacco giants together fight what now seems the inevitable if slow decline of their industry, the battles between the companies themselves are unlikely to be over.

Then questions were raised on the way smokers actually used these cigarettes. Did they clamp on those tubes or block off at least half the air-effect with their lips? The controversy over whether Barclay is as low tar a cigarette as normal tests indicate is still going on. It has been introduced to a few other markets.

Wages may also prove considerably less adequate than expected and the only way to discover this is when you have to try and live on them. This varies from organization to organization and the best advice is to study contracts carefully and find out as much as possible about the cost of living - preferably from a more neutral source than the interviewer.

For more experienced teachers the oil-producing states are the places for very generous financial rewards, and in countries like Bulgaria and the Sudan considerable amounts of your salary can be saved. But the conditions in these countries must not be forgotten.

With the poor conditions and bad pay in some schools especially it is hardly surprising that some teachers quit the job. It is not unheard of for a teacher to disappear even before having taught a lesson.

What is less explicable is that so many employers are slow or unwilling to improve the circumstances which are the root cause of the teachers' basic insecurity and the midnight departures. Trusting in the ignorance and naivety of each new candidate they will suffer the same agonies year after year, primarily, one suspects, for the sake of a few extra pennies. In this way the career of an English teacher abroad can be regrettably shorter than it should.

So what makes anyone want to teach abroad, a job that at first sight seems appealingly like the Mesopotamian for the rest of a year's holiday in the sun? Despite the exploitation, the drawbacks, the lack of communication, the isolation, it is to be remembered for the rest of your life. It can be an incredibly hard and lonely existence, with just the epistolary lifeline and the World Service to keep you going. In the first few weeks such simple tasks as shopping assume mammoth proportions purely because of that frustrating inability to communicate in another language.

John Upton

Thoughts from some corner of a foreign classroom

The career of an English teacher abroad can often be reduced to broad Hobbesian terminology: noisy, brutish, and sometimes short. Any occupation to do with children is usually noisy and this one is no exception.

The foreign hordes, seemingly continual harbingers of loud sound, sweep down on masses on the poor unsuspecting English teacher, bearing him or her away under a barrage of incomprehensible tongues to start the first lesson. These are the unlucky ones. The more fortunate may be greeted by a circumspiced silence, born out of curiosity and a school used to imposing discipline on its pupils. But here we look at some of the things that do, but not necessarily will, go wrong when teaching English as a foreign language abroad.

Sometimes the interest of a new face from across the waves will quell even the noisiest of children but slowly and surely, like the tide coming in, the source level in the classroom will rise until the foreign teacher suddenly realizes the laughable difficulty of trying to tell someone to shut up in a language other than their own.

It is at this stage the proceedings may reach comical proportions resembling a badly rehearsed amateur dramatics farce (in which everyone knows their lines except the poor incumbent teacher) depending on whether the headmaster puts in a rescue appearance or not. If he or she does it will usually result in an ephemeral evanescent silence which also brings total humiliation and a mild form of paranoia to the English teacher as head and class conduct a gesture-filled conversation with inquisitive stares in the direction of the bemused teacher.

Such incidents can be fuelled by various happenings: Communist Party demonstrations taking place outside the classroom window, (Greece at the time of writing), or the outbreak of tribal warfare (the Sudan). The latter tends to have the unfortunate result of pupil participation with girls throwing bricks at each other across the compound and the boys looking for something more potentially African and dangerous.

The latter example is a good case of the children's tendency to lapse into some form of

brutish behaviour at times, although admittedly a rare and extreme one. More common occurrences of this type can be found, however, not with the children, but far less excusably with the owners or headmasters of the schools themselves.

It is difficult to escape the conclusion that in certain places teaching is quite clinically regarded as a pure business venture and that as long as the scholarly turnstiles are kept clicking, nothing else matters.

Teachers are often treated as mere English language-speaking objects to provide status and extra revenue for the school. Again this depends on the organization, and being a foreigner does not help, but many heads will use a teacher as a tool, trying to extract extra work and hours, not in their contract, but which they suddenly find themselves under considerable pressure to do. The correlation between work performance and the number of hours put in is totally irrelevant. Basically, if you can be exploited, make no mistake, you will be.

Other factors pointing towards the business rather than educational side of these schools include the giving of above realistic marks to please parents and the lack of classroom discipline which, if imposed, might lead to pupils transferring schools. For those with lofty teaching ideals a year abroad may be marvellous experience but in many cases could shatter the professional illusions instilled by foreign language teaching courses.

It is perfectly reasonable to be the innocent abroad when you first arrive in a country but even so it is hard to swallow the fact that some of the things you were told in the interview, so



previously palatable, now appear decidedly stale with an aura of impending rottenness.

The search for accommodation, for instance, may take on huge peripatetic proportions, especially if you suddenly discover you are teaching at two schools miles apart. Some schools offer accommodation but others merely shrug their shoulders and pass the buck, which is simply not good enough when you have probably spent a lot of money on a course to come and teach for them.

Unrevealed facts about navigating or Saturday working may confront teachers. Timetables are usually arranged purely for the benefit of the pupils and large chunks of so-called free time can be spent commuting between several schools a day in unpleasant rush-hour conditions.

When stuck on a bus in some little Greek suburb with another 70 people standing like vertical sardines, the thought of going to work and back 20 times a week is not very appealing. Add to this rather unrealistic timetable expectations where you may

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TOMORROW

The Times profile:
The Aga Khan
by Edward Mortimer



The Aga Khan with his wife the Begum and daughter Zahra

THE TIMES GUERNSEY GILET

This pure wool 'gilet' or button-through waist-coat is warm and practical as well as being smart and stylish to wear. It is made in Guernsey from 100% pure wool and has many of the features that make Guernsey knitwear so popular.

The gilet is made up with a tight close knit for added warmth and wind resistance and the strong high-quality wool ensures that it is tough and hard-wearing. The styling is classic, with a ribbed crew-neck, armholes and hem, with the same neat ribbing knitted across the two patch pockets. The gilet buttons through from neck to hem, and is also characterised as a Guernsey garment by the small slit openings at either side of the deep hem.

Suitable for both men and women, the gilet is ideal as a stylish body warmer over summer shirts and tops and will team well with a variety of skirts and trousers. This Guernsey gilet is a smart high-quality garment that has been specially selected for Times readers and is available in a choice of navy blue or grey with black buttons or oatmeal with wooden buttons. It may be dry cleaned or hand washed with care.



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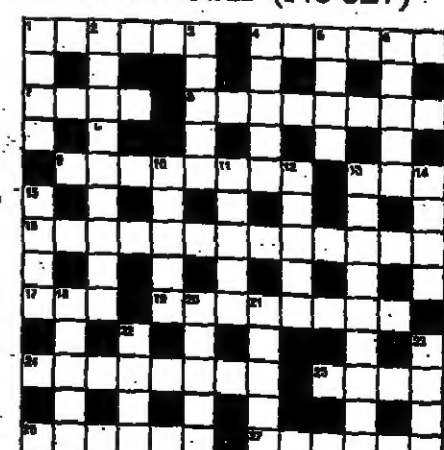
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CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 627)

- ACROSS
1 Plaster of Paris (6)
2 Mouth roof (6)
3 Bloodied (4)
4 Caucasus (8)
5 Get work (4,1,3)
6 Cat cry (3)
7 Great Britain (6)
8 Utter (6,7)
9 Intellectually below par (1,1,1)
10 Gloomily (8)
11 Thiamine lack disease (8)
12 Missile shelter (4)
13 Colouring stick (6)
14 Principally (6)



- DOWN
1 Seattle (2,2)
2 Holl (9)
3 Mohammed's birthplace (5)
4 Disney dog (5)
5 Tragic drama king (6)
6 Armistice (5)
7 Fantasy (5)
8 Frankster (5)
9 Dividend (5)
10 Commemorative disc (9)
11 Literat (4)
12 Melody (4)
18 Perpendicular (5)
19 Greek music hall (5)
20 Poppy drug (5)
21 Sty (4)
22 Wall-eye (4)

SOLUTION TO No 626

- ACROSS: 1 Bloblin 5 Sigh 8 Plead 9 Segment 11 Testoral 13 Maim
15 Encouragement 17 Sure 18 Deceit 21 Suffice 22 Torso 23 Blow
24 Acres
DOWN: 2 Liege 3 Hod 4 Mismanagement 5 Sago 6 Grenade
7 Apothecary 10 Temptation 12 Onus 14 Beer 16 Careful 19 Pursue
20 View 22 Tor

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Revealed: nun's letters to the outside world

Benedictine nun Dame Felicitas Corrigan has just written a book about the extraordinary friendship of her first Abbess with Bernard Shaw and Sir Sydney Cockerell. Caroline Moorehead reports

At 9.30 each morning, with prayers, reading, manual labour and mass behind her, Dame Felicitas Corrigan disappears up the stairs to her "surgery in the attic" and gets down to literary work. She is a Benedictine nun in her seventies, belonging to the community at Stanbrook Abbey outside Worcester.

Tomorrow sees the publication of *The Nun, the Infidel and the Superman*, Dame Felicitas's biography of her first Abbess, Dame Laurencia McLachlan, a woman of outstanding musical gifts but most remarkable perhaps for her friendships, in particular with line art expert Sir Sydney Cockerell and writer Bernard Shaw, who called her "an enclosed nun with an unenclosed mind".

It is not Dame Felicitas's only published book: the last 40 years have seen a steady production of monographs, anthologies and biographical notes. But it is her first signed book. Anonymity, up until now, has been considered desirable.

Dame Felicitas is a slight, energetic woman. She has been a member of the enclosed order of Benedictines since 1933 when, the fifth child in a Liverpool family of 14, with a degree in English and a training as an organist, she came to Stanbrook Abbey as Dame Laurencia's first novice. She is worldly, outspoken and funny. For the last 30 years she has been writing twice-yearly circular letters to friends; they are

stone building 50 yards down the drive, a visiting Benedictine monk said: "Legend has it that you need a First to come to Stanbrook." Dame Felicitas rejects the implicit notion of exclusiveness impatiently: "We're not a race of blue stockings raising social barriers". But she agrees that almost all aspirants today are graduates and "not less than 25 or 26, so that they know that the world is a seductive place. Those who used to come at 17 never grew up". In the monastery kitchen are two of the younger nuns; one has a degree in Hebrew, Greek and Latin, the other in medieval history.

How did Dame Felicitas start writing? "Dame" is a Benedictine appellation; the monks are known as Dom. Their house is a monastery, not a convent. Dame Felicitas produces these only published book: the last 40 years have seen a steady production of monographs, anthologies and biographical notes. But it is her first signed book. Anonymity, up until now, has been considered desirable.

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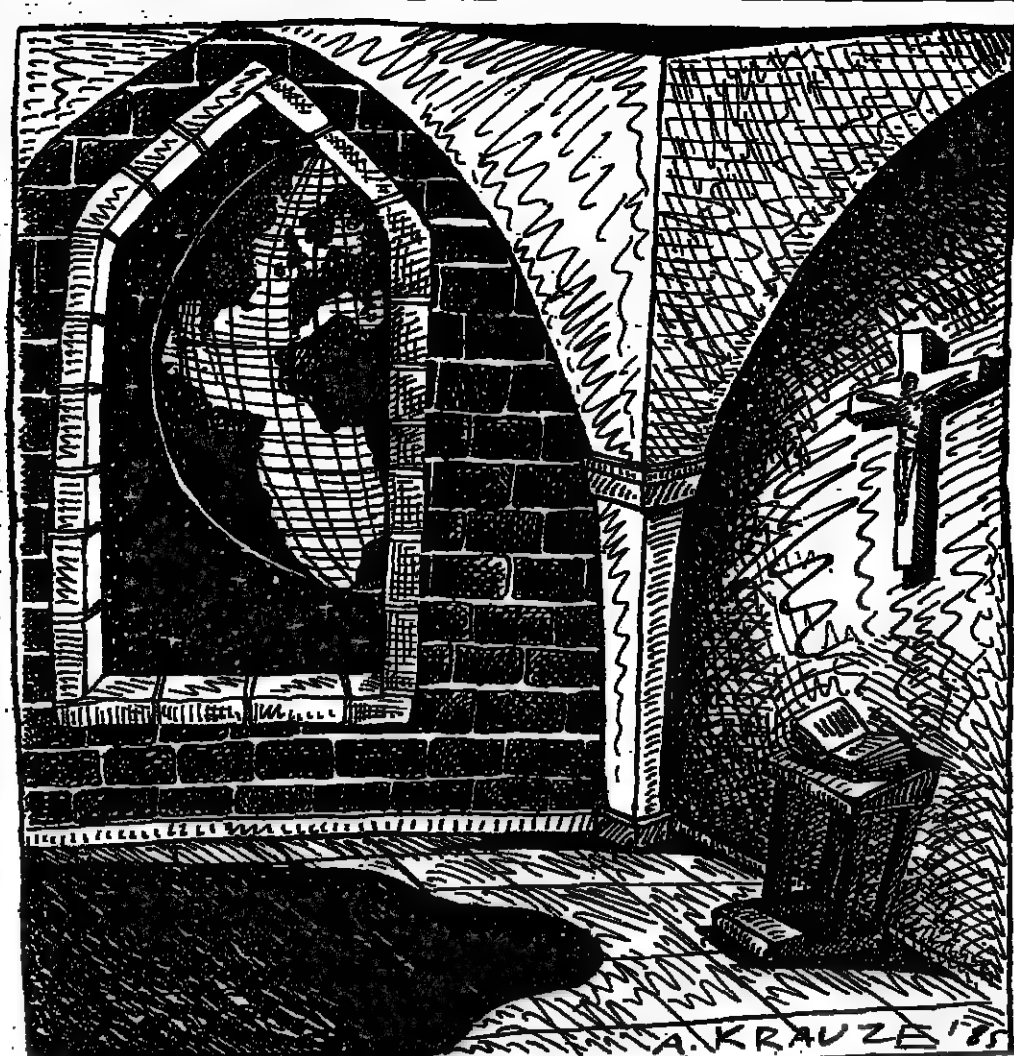
months before entering as a novice at 18, never to leave the enclosure until her death 70 years later.

As Dame Felicitas worked, so more and more letters came to light - Sir Sydney Cockerell sent the abbess eight volumes - proof of intense friendships with men and women who were often neither Catholic nor believers and with whom Dame Laurencia had kept up a regular, often highly argumentative correspondence.

Some of these letters made their way into a first book, more of a history of the abbey, published under the title *In a Great Tradition* in 1956. (It was also a Book Society Choice.) The new book is devoted entirely to Dame Laurencia's friendships and has been made possible by time: new letters have been unearthed, some of the older nuns who venerated the abbess and might have minded the sophistication of such a book have died, and passages from Shaw, previously deemed too irreverent, have been included. "We're not shocked now."

To the outsider, the fact that such friendships could exist at all between an enclosed nun and especially worldly agnostics is perplexing. Dame Felicitas considers it normal. The Benedictine order, she says, is such as to encourage it. "When I entered it was considered courteous to answer all letters. That was seen as an apostolic part of your work. We have no fooling rules about numbers of visitors. And, you know, the iron grilles had a strange effect: it encouraged confidences." From the circular letters and her conversation it is clear that Dame Felicitas, too, has good friendships.

The nuns rise at 5am to read and pray; their day ends at 10pm, with coffee. In between come many hours of sung offices (the abbey being renowned for its plainness), much hard work (the Benedictine rule being that each monastery must be self-sufficient or earn its keep), and several hours of



reading "to nourish the prayer". They seldom leave the enclosure, although Dame Felicitas has been to Africa to help set up a new monastery and to do research in the Bodleian Library in Oxford, when she was too flummoxed by the decimal currency she had never seen before to buy herself a hot dog.

In the monastery, there is no radio and no television. Dame

There was once one hot tap for 50 nuns, now there are bathrooms

Felicitas, however, reads *The Times*, the *Spectator* and the *Literary Supplement* regularly, and next week is to give a lecture on religious manuscripts before playing the organ at Worcester Cathedral with the Stanbrook choir of nuns.

With her friendships, her considerable talents, she is clearly in Dame Laurencia's mould. It is hard for a visitor, though, not to find these contradictions, the clear, cerebral scholarship and the remoteness from familiar freedoms, confusing.

Has life at the abbey altered much since Dame Laurencia's time? "Oh yes. Terribly. In

every way, my dear." Some changes are, of course, good and Dame Felicitas acknowledges them. Until a few years ago there was just one hot tap for more than 50 nuns; now there are bathrooms. Cream serge, worn at all times against the skin, has been replaced by cotton. There is more sleep and a loggia in which to take recreation.

Some of the changes, however, she deplors. With the Second Vatican Council came a powerful wind of reform. "People in the Church went mad. They confused form and content. You've got to have form. To sweep it away as they did was lamentable. They did away with ceremonial, tiny things like bowing to the abbess. They decided there should be only one class of nun, so, overnight, all distinction of vocation was done away with and our 22 lay sisters, taking simple vows, became choir sisters, taking our solemn vows. I'm not a feminist, not at all. But the dear fathers do have their nuns to look after them, don't they?"

Remembering the compulsory daily study of Latin and the specialization of every nun in one of the early Christian fathers, Dame Felicitas sounds full of regret. "And then taking away the iron grilles. That would have been around 1967. Would it horrify you to know

that I liked them? They were a very strong symbol, a challenge, a reminder to me that I belonged elsewhere." Today, visitors and nuns sit on upright modern chairs round a table in a parlour.

According to the Benedictine year-book, Stanbrook Abbey has 50 nuns out of a total of 90 in England. (There are 467 Benedictine monks.) The community, says Dame Felicitas, is in a very healthy state with two novices joining each year. Furthermore she believes that the Church, as in the 12th century, is in a period of great promise. "A terrific future is opening, coming from below". In a more personal way she takes pleasure in some of the restored ceremonial - the nuns once again bow to each other after an enforced lapse of 15 years - and the widespread determination to hang on to as

It would be terrible if the intellectual life were to go

much of the Latin liturgy as possible.

"We have vespers every day in Latin. Thank God. Oh, thank God. I can't bear English liturgy. I think I would have run away without it. When we had our lessons in Latin you could feel from the language who they came from. Bede was very like homespun, while Saint Augustine's Latin shimmers like silk in the African sun."

Although Dame Felicitas may shy away from the image of the abbess as a cloistered academic, she remains clear as to the importance of learning. "Certainly we'll be writing more. There are so many able people here. That's why we need outside help. It would be terrible if the intellectual life were to go. We mustn't degenerate into piety."

She herself has just finished a biography of Helen Waddell, medieval scholar and author of *Peter Abeldor*. Does she have another idea? "No," she smiles, "except death. And that's quite a big project, isn't it?"

The Nun, the Infidel and the Superman is published tomorrow by John Murray, price £12.50.

Beef and okra
Serves 4 to 5
900g (2lb) shoulder steak, round of beef, sirloin or shin of beef
Salt
Black pepper

Sugar and spice and all things Jamaican

For everyone who is bananas about bananas, *Traditional Jamaican Cookery* by Norma Bengtson, published this week by Penguin (£2.95) is essential kitchen reading. In it they will find recipes for banana biscuits, bread, chips, dhal, figs, fruit punch, ice-cream, jam, milk shake, nectar, punch, tart, wine, and baked bananas as well as for the fritters which follow.

A new pride in Jamaicaness since independence is reflected, says Norma Bengtson, in an increasing interest in traditional Jamaican food. Whereas the major dishes never went out of fashion, some items that were once hard to come by are now seen again in the shops and on tables.

Hers is not the food of the big house with cooks and butlers. It is the everyday and festive fare of villagers and townfolk with few utensils and no pretensions. The names of the dishes like stamp and go, matrimony, escovitch fish, curry goat, cornmeal pone, bannocks, baked bald pates, run down, and akee and saltfish are not all self-explanatory. But it is straightforward, simple and fresh, and through it we glimpse a different order of abundance and shortage. Just when the profusion of throwing a dozen mangoes into a punch for eight is joggling memories of tropical luxuriance, comes a reminder that the Jamaican taste for salt fish is a relic of slavery.

There is a list of British stockists of West Indian produce at the back of the book.

The sweet potato, *Ipomoea batatas* botanically speaking, is the tuberous root of a trailing perennial. It is a native of the American tropics and in the United States is often called a yam which, technically speaking, it is not.

Like our own potatoes, called Irish potatoes in Jamaica, sweet potatoes can be boiled, baked, mashed or fried. Puréed sweet potatoes taste not unlike chestnuts. The following Jamaican recipe for candied sweet potatoes contains no added sugar. The edges of the potatoes caramelize of their own accord in the oven.

Candied sweet potatoes
Serves 4
900g (2lb) sweet potatoes
55g (2oz) butter
1/4 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg

Up to 150ml (1/2 pint) water (see method)

Roll the sweet potatoes in their skins in some slightly salted water until tender, then drain them and remove the skins. Slice the potatoes and arrange them in layers in a buttered overproof dish, each layer dotted with butter and sprinkled with grated nutmeg. Repeat the layers until the dish is full. Add water to cover the base of the dish to a depth of about 7mm (1/4 inch) and bake in a pre-heated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) for about 45 minutes or until the top is crisp.

Candied sweet potatoes are excellent with boiled bacon or with roast pork.

Many people have tasted okra or ladies' fingers only in highly spiced Indian dishes. In the Jamaican recipe for beef and okra, the seasonings are conventionally European which allows the subtle flavour of the vegetable to shine. I would choose skin of beef from the cuts Norma Bengtson suggests. It takes longer to cook than the others but its flavour is better.

Heat the molasses, sugar and butter gently in a pan. Pour in the hot water, mix well and set aside.

Sift together the flour, baking powder, salt and nutmeg, then add the grated ginger and the well-beaten egg. Combine the molasses liquid with the flour mixture, and pour the resulting batter into a shallow tin lined with greased paper. (Even non-stick tins should be lined). Bake in a pre-heated moderate oven (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) for about 1 hour, or until a warm skewer inserted into the centre of the cake comes out clean.



Shona Crawford Poole

8 tablespoons oil
2 onions, chopped
1 clove garlic, chopped
1 sprig thyme
2 tomatoes, chopped
900ml (1 1/2 pints) water
450g (1lb) okras, tops removed

Cut the meat across the grain into thin slices, no more than 5x7cm (2x3in), and season them with salt and pepper.

Brown the meat in the oil (or a mixture of oil and butter), then add the onions and garlic and stir until these take colour. Add the thyme and tomatoes, stir again, and add the water. Bring to the boil, then lower the heat, cover, and simmer until the meat is tender.

Add the okras, taste for salt, cover, and cook for a further 30 minutes. This dish is particularly good re-heated, as the meat absorbs the aroma of the seasonings, so it can be prepared a day in advance.

Banana fritters
Serves 4 to 6
6 very ripe bananas
2 eggs, beaten
1/2 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
About 55g (2oz) plain flour
Oil for shallow frying

Sugar to dredge

Peel the bananas and mash them to a smooth paste. Add the beaten eggs, nutmeg and just enough flour to make a thick mixture. Fry the mixture in moderately hot oil, dropping it in by the spoonful. When the fritters are brown on one side, turn them over. Drain them on absorbent paper, arrange on a large platter and sprinkle with sugar. Serve hot.

Jamaican gingerbread has travelled the world. Fresh ginger is used in this old recipe which makes the kind of dense gingerbread to butter for tea. It is equally good made with white or wholemeal flour, and white or brown sugar.

Gingerbread
Makes 1 cake
120ml (4fl oz) molasses
225ml (8oz) sugar
110g (4oz) butter
120ml (4fl oz) hot water
285g (10oz) flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
2 teaspoons grated fresh ginger
1 egg, beaten

Heat the molasses, sugar and butter gently in a pan. Pour in the hot water, mix well and set aside.

Sift together the flour, baking powder, salt and nutmeg, then add the grated ginger and the well-beaten egg. Combine the molasses liquid with the flour mixture, and pour the resulting batter into a shallow tin lined with greased paper. (Even non-stick tins should be lined). Bake in a pre-heated moderate oven (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) for about 1 hour, or until a warm skewer inserted into the centre of the cake comes out clean.

I bet there's more laughter in this monastery than outside

humorous and pertinent. Her conversation reflects all the minute domesticity of institution life - milk puddings and infusions, the rules combined with recalcitrant scholastic thinking, sometimes hard to follow for someone not versed in medieval church history. "We're absolutely ordinary women," she says. "But I bet there's more laughter and more clever conversation in this monastery than in much of the world outside."

She may be right about the conversation; but the point about the Benedictines is that they are not very ordinary women. The property that is now Stanbrook Abbey was acquired when a community of English nuns at Cambrai, daughters of British Catholics driven to France by religious intolerance were driven back to England in 1795 by the French Revolution. Their founder, Dame Gertrude More, great-granddaughter of Sir Thomas More, translated St Francis de Sales. The nuns who gathered round her were scholars as well as needlewomen and later printers.

Over lunch in the Stanbrook Abbey guest-house, a square

The alarming sound of the future

I have heard the future, and it doesn't work. It goes blip... blip... very faintly. The sound of a quartz alarm clock at its last gasp. Of course it doesn't wake you up: I just happened to be lying there one morning when it started. For a while I couldn't work out what it was. Then I realized - and after that I got to thinking.

What, I asked myself, was I doing with a quartz alarm clock? Why, come to that, should anyone have one? In my case, the cheap old clockwork alarm having been dropped once too often, I presented myself at my local jeweller's for a replacement. There my eye was caught by an efficient-looking unit priced even cheaper and driven by this new-fangled quartz stuff. I thought I would give it a try - after all, is it not a fact that nothing can go wrong with a quartz mechanism?

No, I was soon to discover, it is not. This sort of technology either works or doesn't, and in the latter case there is really nothing to be done. Sure enough my trusty chronometer had within days developed a habit of stopping - and, even more alarming, the second hand showed a perverse desire to travel backwards. It was when I took it in to the jeweller's that I began to realize what I was up

against, for rather than taking the back of end and engaging in delicate fine-tuning, this master-craftsman simply prised off the glass (well, plastic) and pulled the hands about a bit.

For a while, this seemed to have done the trick. But then the little marvel decided to stop even trying to wake anybody up - not that it had ever exactly strained itself in that department. And soon after that the hands - still nursing a grievance after their rough handling - started withdrawing their labour every morning at 3.50 sharp. When, finally, I woke and heard that subliminal, other-worldly blip... blip... I knew I was beaten.

It was at about the same time that my first adventure in the world of the digital watch was coming to an end. I must admit that the £1.99 price tag had had everything to do with my buying one of these, but for a while I felt almost fond of this strange, dialless thing on my wrist. And, for the most part, it worked, apart from an irritating habit of reverting to 1:00 if you

nudged the wrong button, and a tendency to fade away on a cold night.

So there I was, back in the jeweller's and determined to revert to the ancient virtues of clockwork. But in the short interval since I had been there last, the wily crystal had completed its takeover.

I finally ran a clockwork alarm to ground - in a hardware shop, again dirt cheap, but built with reassuring low-tech solidity. It is the sort of alarm clock you see in cartoons, jumping about on the bedside table. It doesn't so much wake you up as pull you out of bed and give you a cold shower. It is everything an alarm clock should be. And the watch is everything a watch should be - no gimmicks, no blips, you wind it up and it goes. Now these two exemplary

timepieces have one thing in common - apart from rarity value. They were both manufactured behind the Iron Curtain, in countries where things are so bad they actually want sterling - hence the suspiciously low prices. The Soviet bloc apparently leads the world in this particular obsolete technology and one cannot but wonder why.

once heard an alarming theory that Soviet weapons technology is the way it is, because they know that at the first whiff of nuclear grapeshot, everything more advanced than a radio valve will instantly be rendered useless. Could it also be that they want to be the only people on earth (apart from a few horological diehards like myself) who know what the time is?

Or is it just that the Soviet-type alarm clock is the best answer to rousing the vodka-soaked worker from his bed and getting him to the tractor factory on time? You certainly couldn't rely on quartz to do that.

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Focus on The Times Classified

Making it a foursome

1985 will be the year when four-wheel drive is available on more models than ever. In this week's special supplement we assess four-by-four values, talk to the top 4WD engineers, survey the latest off-roaders and test the Alfa 33, Audi 200 Quattro, Honda 4WD Shuttle and Peugeot 205 T16. As the Grand Prix circus hits Europe we report on the Estoril GP.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Stay tuned in

Conservative Central Office has been urging the IBA to order the scheduling of a Granada documentary next Tuesday. Called *The Selling of the President*, it examines the marketing of Maggie, using clips to show how Mrs T has softened her hairstyle, lowered her voice and adopted a generally less intimidating image. To the Tories' acute embarrassment, it precedes a Conservative party political broadcast at 10pm. The programme also relates how Labour employed filmmaker David Wickes in 1974 to spruce up Harold Wilson's image as a "stylish garden gnome with a Yorkshire accent" by buying him six new suits, identical shirts and ties and playing *I'm Just Wild About Harry* at his public meetings. The IBA, however, will not be whipping boys and have refused the request. More ammunition for Peter Kellner (see last two columns) if he needs it.

Home discomfort

Sir George Young, environment minister, seems to have got an attack of the jitters at the prospect of meeting some real homeless people tomorrow. Martin Coleman, Labour leader of Brent Council in London, intended to bring two or three from the borough along with him to see Sir George in his Marsham Street office, at a meeting arranged last month. Yesterday, Coleman says, Sir George's office rang saying the minister felt the presence of homeless people "would be a distraction." Coleman says if they are not allowed in the meeting is off. The DoE said yesterday that Sir George would see the homeless when next in Brent.

BARRY FANTONI



Maggie out?

Ministers close to Mrs Thatcher have discreetly let it slip to me that she intends to resign one year after winning the next election. Assuming this government runs its full course she would depart in 1989, by which time she would be 63, Denis 73, and she would have completed 10 full years in Downing Street. But why let the cat out of the bag? To dampen growing backbench Tory hostility towards her? Or to preempt any plan she might have to continue longer in her post?

Going nap

Strange goings-on in the Commons in the small hours yesterday. At 4.30 am Tory MP John Heddle swept into the annex of the public bill office and fell over Liberal Archie Kirkwood, sleeping the night on the gold stone floor. Why? Because at 10pm on Tuesdays the office accepts a single 10-minute bill for discussion three weeks later, and Kirkwood was determined that on May 15, a Liberal bill to help the disabled young, Kirkwood had a disturbed night: Heddle was followed by his secretary, to take dictation. For Heddle, who particularly wanted his own bill heard on May 15, it was also a frustrating night. "I was jarred by an insomnia."

News flash

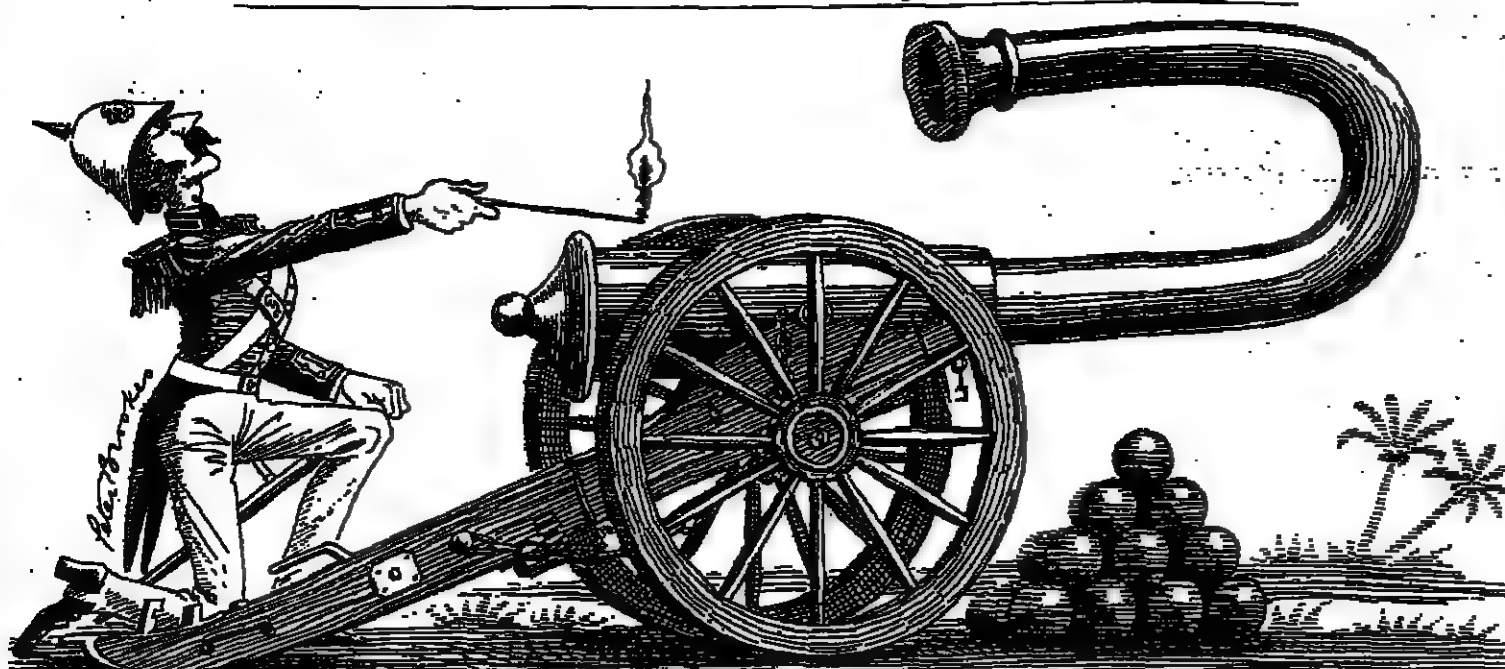
Could David Dimbleby be the BBC's answer to Sir Alastair Burnet? Dimbleby, whose series on America, *The Great Divide*, was held up last week because of cash cuts, was promptly lunched by BBC controller Michael Grade and the head of news, Ron Neil, who has made no secret of his determination to "do something" about the lacklustre 9 o'clock News. Dimbleby is now being tipped as the ideal anchor to revamp it.

M'Bowling in

All-party anti-government coalitions are suddenly the fashion. No sooner is the Employment Institute prematurely rumoured than I hear of an inaugural meeting in the Lords tonight of a group determined to keep Britain in Unesco. The United Nations Association and its chairman, ex-Labour minister Lord Sainsbury, are the emminences grises. Peers and MPs of all persuasions except the Tory right have been enlisted and approaches made to artists, scientists and academics. They include Yehudi Menuhin, Sir Hugh Casson, Sir Stephen Spender, Professor Joseph Needham and Lady Juliette Huxley, widow of Sir Julian. Unesco's first director-general, Four former prime ministers - Lords Stockton, and Wilson, Callaghan and Heath - are also believed to support the group's aim, which is to persuade the Government to seek to reform the politicized, maladministered organization from within rather than destroy it by leaving.

PHS

Lord Bauer offers an alternative to years of lies and guilt



How western self-hate helps Moscow

Soviet spokesman but C. P. Snow, guru of British and American intellectuals, who wrote that "in overall strategy the socialist economy has been a major success. That is, it has produced national wealth, not only in the Soviet Union, but in other socialist countries, very fast; almost certainly much faster than it could have done under capitalism."

More effective has been the persistent denigration in the West of the West's conduct towards the Third World. It was not a Soviet propagandist but Old Etonian Cyril Connolly who wrote in *The Sunday Times* under the heading *Black Man's Burden*: "It is a wonder that the white man is not more thoroughly detested than he is... in our dealings with every single country, greed masked by hypocrisy, led to unscrupulous coercion of the native inhabitants... cruelty, greed and arrogance, characterized what can be summed up in one word, exploitation..."

According to a leaflet distributed at Cambridge University a few years ago by a Third World pressure group, "We took the rubber from Malaysia, the tea from India, raw materials from all over the world, and gave almost nothing in return". In reality, the British took the rubber and tea to those countries, not from them, as the plants were taken there by the British in the 19th century.

Even when more restrained language is used, criticism of the West is often in the realm of fantasy. Shirdath Ramphal, Secretary General of the Commonwealth, charged the West in an address to the Trilateral Commission in March 1980 with responsibility for the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. The reason was that more aid would have helped Afghanistan "to stand on its feet economically, to grow as a nation with economic, social and political institutions stabilized against the erosions of poverty and so against pressure from without".

Afghanistan is one of the most backward countries of the world. To suggest that yet more aid from the West would have enabled it effectively to resist invasion is fantasy. As it was, Afghanistan resisted Soviet forces for much longer than the much more advanced Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

It is not in *Pravda* or *Izvestia* but in *The Guardian* that we read: "A quarter of the world's population lives, quite literally, by killing the other three-quarters. We need also to suggest that yet more aid from the West would have enabled it effectively to resist invasion is fantasy. As it was, Afghanistan resisted Soviet forces for much longer than the much more advanced Czechoslovakia and Hungary."

Philip Webster on why Labour reselection so far has been relatively bloodless

The massacre that misfired



Home and dry: Bell and Boothroyd. Still battling: Freeson

retirement of Bernard Conlan but was crushingly defeated by Joyce Quinn, a moderate. At Brighton Kemtown, Rod Fitch, a Militant supporter who fought the seat at the last election, failed to get the nomination. Militant has failed to make headway in Scotland and may now be thwarted in Glasgow. Provan, one of its main targets.

All over the country MPs, left, right and centre, are being reselected unopposed. They include six members of the shadow cabinet: Roy Hattersley, Peter Archer, Stan Orme, Gwyneth Dunwoody, Barry Jones and Meacher.

Betty Boothroyd, a fierce adversary of the Bennites on the NEC, has regularly appeared on hard left hit lists. The left put up a candidate to oppose her in the West Bromwich West selection procedure but did not have the votes to prevent her supporters adopting a "shortlist-of-one" under which Miss Boothroyd's name was the only one to go before the selection conference.

reduced over three-quarters of mankind to beggary, poverty and death, not because they don't work, but because their wealth goes to feed, clothe and shelter a few idle classes in America, Europe and Japan... Money-mongers in London and New York and in other western seats of barons living on profit snatched from the peasants and workers of the world."

In the same vein, a prominent American clergyman, Professor Ronald Sider, writes: "It would be wrong to suggest that 210 million Americans bear sole responsibility for all the hunger and injustice in today's world. All the rich developed countries are directly involved... we are participants in a system that dooms even more people to agony and death than the slave system."

Such fantasies are readily taken up by Third World politicians supported by the West, and are often advanced in publications or platforms provided by it. Kwame Nkrumah was, until his downfall, a widely praised in the West who initiated the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Here are some of his characteristic utterances: "They (the colonialists) took our lands, our lives, our resources and our dignity... It was when they had gone and we were faced with the stark realities, as in Ghana on the morrow of our independence, that the destitution of the land after long years of colonial rule was brought sharply home to us."

In fact, before the British there was not a single cocoa tree in Gold Coast Ghana, nor a network of roads and rail. When they left there was a huge cocoa acreage, all of it in African hands, as well as an effective system of transport.

The West further undermines its own position by exaggerating the importance of Third World countries of no strategic significance and with no economic or military power beyond that conferred on them by the West itself, witness countries such as Ghana and Tanzania.

While the West must resist Soviet attempts to seize real strategic advantage points we should, nevertheless, consider what can be done to make conditions less tempting and propitious for such moves.

We should systematically assist those Third World governments that promote a society to which the Soviet system has little appeal. This means, broadly, a society in which personal and legitimate property is

effectively protected, and in which individual economic initiative is given scope, including freedom to develop commercial contacts abroad.

We should also try to expose and refute promptly instances of falsehoods such as those mentioned. This would involve close scrutiny of the largely western-financed international organizations which serve as platforms for virulent abuse of the West.

But much the most important task is, alas, also the most difficult. We should ask why, in recent decades, we have succumbed to totally unfounded feelings of guilt, accepted the most outrageous, evident and damaging falsehoods, and deferred to rulers who treat their people with contempt, brutality and even inhumanity, and who have no real power except that conferred on them by the West.

How have our faculties of simple observation, reflection and rational thought come to be so easily evanescent amidst awe-inspiring advances in knowledge? It is as if some invisible monster had ravaged our self-confidence and our abilities.

These features of our culture have often been noted. Many diverse explanations - inevitably conjectural - have been offered, such as the unwholesome effects of rapid change and the multiplicity of information and opinion that impinges upon, even envelops, people: uncritical preference for remote information over direct experience; the growth of specialization; the loss of traditional religious belief; and the rapid erosion of traditional values; the denial of personal responsibility under the impact of determinism; guilt born of affluence, coupled with disappointment that the unprecedented prosperity of recent decades has failed to yield satisfaction and happiness; and others as well.

Whatever the reasons, there is now an evident lack of poise and reflectiveness in the West which greatly affects the stance of its leaders and opinion-makers, both towards the Third World and the Soviet Union. We ought to think hard about the forces behind this since a society, however technically proficient, whose leaders are lacking in intellectual clarity and moral courage is not well placed to resist internal and external threats.

The changes suggested here may make a modest contribution to improvement in this complex realm. What can be expected, however, is that if the West regains clarity and self-confidence, it would improve relations with the Soviet Union.

Present and future Soviet leaders will know where they stand, and will be less tempted into adventures. And the West's new confidence may well affect the conduct of the Soviets towards the peoples under their control. Here lies the best hope of genuine East-West improvement. This article is expanded from a speech in last night's Lords debate on Soviet subversion.

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contest. There was anger among black activists in 1983 after Dubs defeated Russell, a white, who had hoped to become Britain's first black MP for many years for the nomination. A black challenge was expected this time, but it did not happen.

Gerald Kaufman, the shadow home secretary, who has been under threat, now appears likely to have an easy run after the decision by John Nicholson, the far left deputy leader of Manchester City Council, to pull out of the contest. Nicholson withdrew in favour of Ken Strath, also on the council, who is regarded as the left's "sacrificial lamb" in a contest it knows it cannot win.

At Birkenhead Frank Field is waiting to see if the left will put up a candidate after his threat to force a by-election if he loses on June 23. The threat seems to be having a salutary effect. It would not be surprising if the left decides to put up only a token fight.

Although the moderates remain unimpressed there is no complacency in the Labour leadership. Today could see the start of an unwelcome legal battle over Brent East. Michael Cocks, Labour's chief whip, is engaged in a bitter struggle to keep the nomination at Bristol South. After complaints by Cocks to the national executive, the constituency party meeting which will fix the reselection timetable will not now be held until after the local elections next month.

Impartial observers of the coast between Peter Shore and the left in Bethnal Green and Stepney say that Shore's chances have marginally improved, but are still no better than even.

John Evans and Gerry Bermingham, in the two St Helens constituencies, Robert Kilroy-Silk (Knowsley North), John Forrester (Stoke-on-Trent North), Michael McGuire (Mackerrill) and John Silkin (Deptford) all face serious threats.

But, with 54 of Labour's 209 MPs already reselected, Labour's leaders hope the tranquillity will be maintained, putting the party on the way to a lasting recovery.

Peter Kellner

Frank screens, not blank

Something terrible may happen soon. The Conservatives seem bent on abolishing the party political broadcast. I must admit that I cannot prove this grave accusation and acknowledge that, even if I could, I might be in a minority in regretting the change.

The basis for my charge is that this is the only rational explanation for the way the Tories now use their broadcasts. They decline to use all the time allotted to them. They deceive their viewers and lie about their opponents. Hardly ever do they provide a coherent account of

Tory policies. They are not so short of policies that they have nothing to tell us about what the Government is doing. Many of us would be eager to hear ministers explain why prescription charges have risen tenfold in six years, or why the Conservatives want to abandon earnings-related state pensions, or why teachers should not be paid properly.

Two explanations fit what is happening. One is that Conservative Central Office is so ashamed of what the Government has done so far, and has so little faith in what it will do next, that its PPBs (as party political broadcasts are known in the trade) are used solely to divert attention. The other explanation is that the Tories are trying to subvert the very notion of PPBs by abusing the party's free air time and so rousing a normally placid electorate into demanding their end.

I take a charitable view. I suspect that the staff of Central Office really do believe that the Conservative Party under Mrs Thatcher is transforming British society for the better. If they do believe that, then the absence in PPBs of any description of or enthusiasm for the Prime Minister's strategy is all the more remarkable. Only one hypothesis is consistent with the facts: the Tories want to kill PPBs.

If that seems a bold claim, consider the evidence. In February 1974 a Conservative election broadcast suggested that if Labour were returned to power, owner occupiers would find their homes taken over by the state. This ludicrous claim was reinforced with an image of a sea of red paint engulfing whole rows of houses.

I blame Mrs Thatcher for many things, but not for that. She had not yet become party leader and was too busy defending her reputation as Education Secretary against the charge that she had deprived children of their free school milk. So there is nothing new in the Tories using PPBs to malign their opponents. It is a thread (perhaps the only one) linking the Heath and Thatcher years.

However, since Mrs Thatcher became party leader, the standards of Conservative PPBs have deteriorated markedly. The process was already evident by 1979, when Saatchi and Saatchi dreamed up the idea of assembling a long line of actors under the slogan "Labour isn't working". Conservative PPBs concluded, with the injunction: "Don't just hope for a better future; vote for one." It was just as well for

Tim Bell, the mind behind that campaign, that the Trade Description Act has never applied to political broadcasts.

The success of Saatchi and Saatchi's broadcasts in achieving their goal may be measured by results. Three years into office, Thatcher's first term in office Channel 4 was launched without any party political broadcasts. This breakthrough provided the Tories with those two pieces of artillery they invariably need: a precedent, and a thin end of the wedge.

With the current county council election campaign, a Conservative broadcast opened with the words, "Tonight we want to nail a lie". John Gummer, speaking with all the authority of the Prime Minister's poodle, then said: "If any Labour authority tells you it has to slash services then this is a lie."

Which Labour councils, one might wonder, do the Tories have in mind? Their PPB gave an example. "In Labour, Derbyshire this is what," the Tory broadcast said, "the following list: three old people's homes, five children's homes and 1,000 teachers."

What Derbyshire council has actually said, in its own newspaper to ratepayers, is that cuts such as these would have to be made if the county were to abide by the Government's spending targets. However, the paper quoted the council's deputy leader as saying that it "would not consider such drastic cuts".

Elsewhere the Tory broadcast asserted that "for every million pounds Conservative Lincolnshire spends on maintaining roads, it spends £155,000 on administration. But in Labour Nottinghamshire, the figure is £238,000 - virtually twice as much because Labour prefers administration to action".

Once again the Tories lied. The "administration" figures they quote cover not just road maintenance but public transport and concessionary fares. Nottinghamshire provides generously for both. Lincolnshire does not. It is that fact, and nothing to do with overblown bureaucracies, which explains the difference.

And so the broadcast trundled on, blaming high rate rises in Newcastle for staffing cuts at the local John Lewis store - without explaining that since 1979 Newcastle's expenditure has risen by a lower rate than central government's. It is the withdrawal of rate support grant that has caused Newcastle's large rate rises.

I have three suggestions to make. First, PPBs, far from being scrapped as dishonest propaganda, should be protected as opportunities for parties to speak directly to electors. Second, to provide some protection against abuse, their content should be monitored by the Advertising Standards Authority.

Finally, voters who have the chance should respond to the latest Tory slogan, "On May 2 nail the Labour lie - vote Conservative", by taking the appropriate action: that is, vote for the Tories and voting Labour.

The author is political editor of the New Statesman.

moreover... Miles Kingston

74 per cent say So?

Everyday statistics: a new list issued by the Moreover Bureau of Information

Whenever someone tells the old joke about the Irish not having such an urgent word as *manana*, 100 per cent of those present pretend they haven't heard it before.

When you hear the announcement in a theatre "The Curtain Will Rise in One Minute", the average lapse to the beginning of the play is six minutes.

16 per cent of theatres which announce that the curtain will rise in one minute do not, in fact, have curtains.

Only 2 per cent of actors and actresses have ever mentioned a birth date in a theatre programme, and they have all lied.

There is no white wine in the world which has not been described at some time as either crisp or fruity.

Of all the many thousands of people who have sent back a bottle of wine in a restaurant, only 1 per cent have done it a second time.

When you ring up a recorded time service, the man is always saying "Ten seconds". The next ten seconds are the longest ten seconds known to scientists.

Nobody has ever kept a seed packet long enough to send it back to the makers with the complaint that the picture on the front was very different from what actually grew.

It is always said that the profit margin on food in pubs is greater than that on drink sold over the bar. Conversely it is always said that restaurants make their money out of the wine, not out of the food. Nobody has ever explained this.

The last match in a match box is always one already used.

When someone asks for another half cup of tea, they are always given a full one.

A prawn cocktail is more than 90 per cent lettuce.

The higher quality a glossy magazine, the fewer page numbers are marked in it.

Of all those advised that an article is continued on page 2, col 6, only 18 per cent bother to read on.

The British press can deal with only one left-wing bogeyman at a time. That is why during the miners' strike, when Arthur Scargill was the enemy, Tony Benn and Ken Livingstone became nice guys.

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CITY OF THE GNOME

The idea that the City of London is undergoing a revolution probably arose from the coincidence with the Government's agreement with the Stock Exchange to end fixed stockbroking commissions, the effects of which are still gathering pace prior to the start of a whole series of reforms in what has been called "the big bang" in the autumn of 1986, and the official report by Professor Lawrence Gower into new forms of investor protection in the financial services sector that spawned the White Paper to be debated by the House of Commons today.

Legislation will come in the next session. For once, revolution is not too strong a term. The reform of the Stock Exchange and the new framework of regulation are both institutional responses to more fundamental market forces.

One force has been the manifold expansion of international capital flows. They originated from the concentration of surplus oil proceeds in the gulf states in the seventies, and caused the rise of international banking and investment, and greater instability of currencies and trade flows. The combination of mobile capital and fast-moving instability has brought demands for new markets, for instance to hedge against (or speculate in) currency or commodity price movements and the need for rapid dealing at all times of the day and night in whatever financial centre happens to be open. It has also helped to break down national financial restrictions, instigated by the abolition of British exchange controls in 1979.

Rapid advances in electronic communication have both permitted and encouraged this trend, allowing instant transmission of prices between markets and customers, and between financial centres on opposite sides of the world. We inhabit a global market on which the sun never sets. Nor are changes confined to those who deal in millions. One building society and a retail bank offer ordinary customers facilities to transfer money and pay regular bills by pressing buttons in their own home through the Prestel system.

The effect of these changes is to heighten competition dra-

matically, whether in the high street or between financial services. Only legal or monopolistic restrictions stop the big investor or buyer of insurance and other financial services from shopping in the cheapest market. As technology spreads, this will to some extent also be true in the high street as stores and building societies expand into broking, investment and credit.

They also increase the need for capital, whether to operate international bond markets or provide new money services at the street corner. And that too is pressing profound changes on financial markets, pressures that often undermine the old virtues of specialists, running their own businesses who can be informally trusted to keep their word and do their best for their clients.

The City of London could not afford to opt out of this expansion and sophistication, or the changes needed to meet the challenge. If it is to retain its long-standing position as one of the world's greatest and most innovative financial centres, it must fail to compete elsewhere, despite London's convenient position in the international time zones. The gnomes, now mainly operating from London, might return to central Europe.

Britain's banks and financial markets, it can be argued, are already too concerned with churning money instead of serving industry. It is certainly true that in Germany and Japan, the most successful post-war industrial economies, tight restrictions on financial services have left money markets relatively puny. History, however, cannot be reversed. The City of London has been overmighty for centuries, because of Britain's need for sophisticated finance for shipborne international trade and imperial development. Today, the financial services industries are an important national asset in their own right, accounting for nearly a million jobs and contributing more than £4 billion to the balance of payments.

In London, changes at the Stock Exchange are the most dramatic and the hardest to regulate. The intended breakdown of fixed broking commissions leads logically to removing most of the distinc-

tions between agents and marketmakers who deal on their own account. And in a whirl of change that has surprised the most far-sighted, ushered in proposed changes to membership rules (to be voted by members in June) which would in effect replace most of the old partnerships and open the exchange to British and foreign retail banks and London merchant banks as well as diversified money trading groups. That will eliminate the distinction between different businesses, turning high street leaders such as Barclays Bank into true financial supermarkets. It will also create great problems of ensuring fair dealing for customers caught up as victims of too rapid an expansion by the inexperienced with attendant dangers of damaging failures and blows to confidence.

The Bank of England has an important role to play in ensuring proper financial caution to sustain confidence, although the rescue of Johnson Matthey Bankers gave the false impression that the Bank could play an inappropriate role of standing behind all the participants in the market. There will undoubtedly be failures and misalliances and market participants need to be educated to keep their own house in order as the Stock Exchange and building societies have traditionally done.

The White Paper expounds a general framework of investor protection to cover anything from financial futures to selling life assurance. The general principle that control should be exercised by self-regulating trade bodies, which report to an upper tier commission exercising control through the power to license practitioners (and the self-regulating bodies), offers the maximum of flexibility with the minimum of bureaucracy. This looks a good way to regulate financial markets, which have a strong interest in their own reputation, but inspires less confidence in the areas of selling life assurance and the like to the public which illogically are to be governed by a second commission.

No one can know exactly how this revolution will develop. That is the virtue of the new freedoms, but also their challenge.

ABUSE OF PRIVILEGE

The Government's long anticipated report on the abuse of diplomatic privilege has emerged at last, one year after the Libyan crisis which inspired it and 24 hours after a series of expulsions from the Soviet embassy in London - which has underlined its relevance. Its timing is thus impeccable.

So too by and large, is what Americans like to call its thrust, imported terrorism and the charges and counter-charges over spying have led people to view the average mission in this country as a kind of Trojan horse. This cannot be good for diplomats, at least part of whose responsibility is to show the most acceptable face of their homeland to the world.

Nor, in sometimes failing to achieve that aim, can most of them blame anyone but themselves. The gross misuse of embassies like that which characterized the events in St James's Square a year ago, may be comparatively rare. But the flagrant abuse of diplomatic immunity by those who fail to pay their parking fines or hide

beneath its cloak to avoid prosecution for more serious offences, has reached a level at which action is called for to stop it. The best run embassies already pay scrupulous attention to the laws of the country in which they serve and instruct their staff likewise. They too must welcome this report.

It is far from ideal. While the action to be taken over unpaid parking fines is explicit enough, there are several other areas in which it is decidedly fuzzy. But as the report points out and as most must surely recognize, there are genuine difficulties over unscrupulous provisions of the Vienna Convention which protects the rights of diplomats living abroad. In countries with scant regard for human rights it is important that our envoys go about their business unimpeded by the zealous application of a malleable law. Even in some of the more cautious paragraphs in the Government report one can see the possibilities for some country which is anxious to make trouble.

There are those who will argue that the conclusions do not go far enough and that too many conditional clauses have to be satisfied before diplomatic bags are opened or premises searched. But even if more comprehensive security procedures were adopted, they would have to be very vigorously applied to ensure full compliance with the law - and even then. . . . One suspects that the most determined and least scrupulous transgressor would get by. All that one can hope for is that the threat of firm action in appropriate circumstances will act as a deterrent.

We have learnt from the Libyan episode. We cannot control what happens in other countries but we have a right to do so in our own - at least in so far as the freedoms and well-being of other individuals are threatened. We must wait - but not too long - for the diplomatic world to respond to this latest list of measures - and then act decisively by toughening them where we can.

KEEPING OFF THE GRASS

How to stop a football crowd invading the pitch? The simple answer is to play like Stoke, or even worse like Halifax, a club on whose terraces spectators are now as exceptional as the hairs on Bobby Charlton's head. A wilfully successful club has obligations, to players and the mass of paying spectators: Chelsea's chairman has now shouldered them in a dramatic way. An imaginative entrepreneur, Mr Ken Bates proposes to top the barbed wire and eleven feet of fine mesh already surrounding the pitch with a strand or two of electrified fence. Pitch invaders are to receive a cattle-prod shock of 12 volts, a dose deplored both by the Greater London Council, a local authority determined to prove the government right in its assertion that it has no significant functions, and by the hapless Mr Macfarlane, the minister for sport, an appointment whose functional significance is just as questionable.

Mr Bates is - we hope - in the business of entertainment. The more paragraphs he earns for Chelsea the better member he makes of that odd band of philanthropists and eccentrics who make up Britain's soccer

club chairmen. Denizens of The Shed with knowledge of rural parts will be quick to point out that even sheep can find ways over and round electric fences. Charged with enough voltage to deter, Chelsea's proposed fence is a drastic measure, with implications for the general safety of the ground; but "dehumanizing" as Labour's spokesman has called it, certainly not Mr Bates is making a practical problem within what is essentially the private area of Stamford Bridge. He and his club answer to the fans within a competitive market. An open minded government and local authority ought to welcome any evidence about crowd control to be gleaned from Chelsea.

For soccer hooliganism is not a single "problem" - it is explained by no sloppy generalization about the social and psychological effects of unemployment nor does it demand some flashy government task force. What happens on the enclosed terraces of old-fashioned football grounds is not the same thing at all as a riot on the public streets of

Luton or repeated vandalism on British Rail trains. That the fans of a club such as Liverpool or Everton have such a good reputation compared with those claiming allegiance to Chelsea or Millwall suggests a local, microscopic explanation rather than some flatulent, national "solution".

In the array of issues confronting British government in 1985 soccer violence should not bulk large. A more relaxed administration might indeed - without in any way condoning gross offence against public order outside sports grounds - see some function in the rituals and crowd activity of the big urban soccer clubs. For government to take into itself the capacity to prevent sporadic local outbreaks snacks of the nanny state at its most cloying - and Mr Macfarlane has allowed himself to become its nagging voice. Mr Bates's effort to contain fans at Chelsea may not work, but it is an experiment worth trying, not least to emphasize the point that the responsibility for what happens inside soccer grounds rests inescapably on club managements.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Fraudulent' prospectus for new jobs

From Mr Tony Baldry, MP for Banbury (Conservative)

Sir, Although the number of people actually in work increased last year by some 340,000, the new jobs created by the economic recovery have been able to do little more than absorb many of the extra people who, for reasons of demography, are coming on to the job market. Total unemployment in Britain thus continues to rise.

It must therefore be right to ensure that we diligently examine and research every possible policy option that might help reduce unemployment. To this end, the launch of any new group intent on researching ways to reduce unemployment is to be welcomed.

However, it is clear that the Employment Institute, launched today, is not intended as a research institute but it is intended to be a campaigning organization. A campaign organization whose manifesto was also published today, a campaign whose policies are already decided and whose apparent purpose now is to seek to gain public support for those policies.

The supporters of the Employment Institute in their manifesto argue that the rise in unemployment since the late 1970s "... must mainly reflect low demand" and give various reasons for such lowering of demand. Astonishingly, these reasons do not anywhere include an acknowledgement of the fact that, for lack of customers buying British goods and services, in the last 20 years the United

Kingdom has seen its share of world trade halved.

The institute argues for certain policies to be taken but, again astonishingly, offers not one suggestion as to how Britain might become more competitive, could win more customers and thus gain a greater share of world trade.

It seems that the overall impression that the institute wishes to give is that the way to improve "demand" and thus tackle unemployment is not by British business winning more customers but simply by the British Government spending more money.

The institute seeks to give the impression that the Government alone could, if it were minded so to do, determine the level of unemployment. Taken alone, this is a fraudulent prospectus.

Of course we have to use both blades of the scissors to cut unemployment: of course there is a role for Government to take new initiatives, such as the expansion of YTS, the expansion of the Community Programme and the cuts in National Insurance contributions announced in the Budget; but to suggest that a simple return to Keynesian economic management will solve unemployment is as misleading as any suggestion that it should all be left to the marketplace.

Unemployment is a challenge to us all, not just Government.

Yours faithfully,
TONY BALDRY,
House of Commons,
April 22.

Royal disclosure

From the Editor of the Daily Mirror

Sir, The letter from Lord Onslow and other peers criticizing the *Daily Mirror* in connection with Princess Michael (April 20) was dated April 18. This was the day before you published the letter from our Publisher, Robert Maxwell, explaining why the *Daily Mirror* had published the facts as then known about Princess Michael's father and his membership of the SS.

If the signatories of the letter from Lord Onslow and others had waited the *Daily Mirror's* explanation, it is to be hoped that they would have refrained from their strictures. In fairness, it is always helpful to hear both sides before forming a judgement.

Since, however, they did not wait, may I emphasize the two major points. First, the *Daily Mirror* wholly agrees with Lord Onslow and others that children are not responsible for their parents' actions. Secondly, however, it considers that this important principle must be read in the light of the vital need to ensure that no breath of suspicion or scandal attaches to the royal family and hence that before a marriage into the royal family takes place, there should be the fullest know-

ledge of the background and origin of those concerned.

It is unfortunate, whatever the reason, that such knowledge, which evidently existed in this particular case, was withheld from the public by those in the know. If Lord Onslow and the other peers disagree with this, perhaps they will now explain why.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL MOLLOY, Editor,
Daily Mirror,
Holborn Circus, EC1,
April 22.

From Mr Andrew W. H. Rankin

Sir, Robert Maxwell in his letter (April 17) appears to have completely missed the point of your leader, "Muddling in" (April 17). The *Daily Mirror* does, indeed, have a duty to the British public to disclose any relevant facts concerning Baron von Reibnitz and his membership of the SS.

However, the hysterical language used in this disclosure is totally unnecessary from an objective point of view, but is understandable in terms of increasing sales of the *Daily Mirror*.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW W. H. RANKIN,
Flat C611,
Du Cane Court, Balham, SW17.

Teachers' time

From Mr P. S. Pendered

Sir, Vice-Admiral Louis Le Bailly (April 17) points out, quite rightly I'm sure, that servicemen, like teachers have to perform a multiplicity of roles. Has he also tried comparing the career prospects and salary scales of an aspiring teacher with those of an aspiring naval officer?

The difference is less marked in other countries. My French mother-in-law rose to the top of her profession. She was awarded the Legion d'Honneur merely (ironical usage) for being a good teacher (not a headmistress), and her pension is the same as that of a major-general - they are both fonctionnaires, of equal rank.

The British public is growing tired, I expect, of complaints like this about the low status and salary of this country's educators. The truth is that it is nothing short of a national scandal, and it is time they

were given the recognition they deserve.

Yours truly,
P. S. PENDERED,
Jude House,
London Road,
Tonbridge,
Kent.

From Mr T. A. Mitchell

Sir, Vice Admiral Le Bailly's implied comparison of a teacher with a corporal is apt when one considers their respective salaries and may be justified by the wide ranging responsibilities and duties apparently undertaken by junior NCOs: but the level of responsibility must surely be related to professional qualification and I suspect that graduate corporals are still pretty thin on the ground.

Yours faithfully,
T. A. MITCHELL,
4 Westbourne Avenue,
Emsworth,
Hampshire,
April 18.

Mrs Thatcher's tour

From Mr S. Grann

Sir, I have just returned from the Far East where, by chance, I happened to be visiting most of the countries on Mrs Thatcher's tour. I am amazed, therefore, to see the absurd, childish and damaging remarks being made on the tour both by senior politicians and, I am afraid, some newspapers.

Make no mistake about it, Mrs Thatcher's tour was a roaring success in selling Britain and British goods. Almost overnight, she changed the image of the UK and, more important, the whole atmosphere of

doing business with this country that existed in the Far East. For the first time for years, we have got a Prime Minister who believes in selling this country and its products. It is unbelievable that anyone should think of criticizing her for doing this.

As far as I am concerned, Mrs Thatcher is doing more good for Britain travelling the world than staying behind in Chequers. I am sure that other exporters will agree.

Yours faithfully,
S. GRANN, Managing Director,
ROBA (UK) Ltd,
Burnt Mill Industrial Estate,
Eltham, Essex.

Corfu Channel incident

From Lord Campbell of Croy

Sir, While sharing the hope that Albania's new leadership will favour more normal relations with other countries, I must comment on the brief account of the 1946 Corfu Channel incident in Mr Nicholas Aldridge's letter (April 22).

In recording that two British warships struck mines he did not mention that more than 40 British lives were lost. The incident occurred not "at the end" of the war but nearly a year and a half after VE Day. The Corfu Channel had been swept and cleared of all German

mines and had for many years been accepted as an international route open to the free passage of vessels of all nations.

Albanian gold is not being held by Britain "in reprisal". The case went to the International Court at The Hague whose judgment required Albania to pay compensation to Britain. Until Albania decides to comply with that judgment it is reasonable that the return of appropriate assets to Albania should be blocked.

Yours faithfully,
CAMPBELL OF CROY,
House of Lords,
April 23.

Trust on the campus

From Mr Peter King

Sir, In your leader, "Trust on the campus" (April 23), you write: "The universities really have no choice except to embrace the Jarratt managerial programme with enthusiasm."

I am relieved that the solution to our problems has now been found, but beg to point out that management and efficiency are means to an end. Since I began university teaching some thirty years ago I have experienced at least three fundamental changes in the official policy on higher education. There is

Attendance fees at the Customs

From the Director-General of the Institute of Freight Forwarders

Sir, Now that the full impact of the implementation of the Rayner recommendations for "economic" charging for the attendance of customs officers on Sundays and Bank Holidays has become apparent, it would seem that, once again, we are faced with double standards. It is all right for the forwarders to be burdened with an estimated overall increase of 93 per cent (the estimate for Dover), whilst the Government and CBI are exhorting all to keep wage settlements and cost increases below the 5 per cent level!

Not only are our members expected to pay for the officer who attends, but also for the data processors and clerical assistants in the office, and for whom no charge has previously been made. This is a little surprising when one recalls that data processing was introduced into HM Customs to make life easier!

More important, no warning of the effects of the new ruling on individual ports was given until about three weeks before the new charges came into operation. The effects on ports is going to vary considerably. As stated, Dover see an overall increase of 93 per cent, but in Hull it is estimated that the increase will be even more, due to the fact that there is very little weekend overtime there, but a considerable amount on Sundays.

There is absolutely no reason why freight should receive any different treatment from passengers, and it is our contention that these charges should be eliminated altogether. There can be no question of freight forwarders absorbing these high costs, they will have to pass them on to importers. But the average importer has absolutely no control over whether his goods arrive at a weekend or not, and it is most iniquitous that some should be burdened with heavy charges for customs attendance, whilst others have no charge whatever.

Yours sincerely,
GORDON A. BROWN,
Director-General,
The Institute of Freight Forwarders,
Suffield House,
9 Paradise Road, Richmond, Surrey.

Points of view

From Mr Richard Tracey, JP, MP for Strithelm (Conservative)

Sir, You have recently embellished your "General Appointments" advertising with political and trade union comments, but I cannot honestly see how two of these, the views of the Labour spokesman, John Prescott, MP, or of Mr Clive Jenkins, could encourage anyone to work in Britain. Their tone is far more likely to drive people to despair and to seek foreign appointments.

John Prescott's attitude is one of confrontation, destructive sneers and ill-temper which so often characterise his contributions in the House of Commons and on the media.

Clive Jenkins seems to look to Sweden as "the economic Mecca". When I was in that country recently, the businessmen complained frequently to me of the confiscatory levels of taxation - over 70 per cent - and the use of this money by Sweden's Socialist Government to create non-jobs. They also told me that these features are driving out many of the most enterprising Swedes to form one particularly notable colony overseas where opportunity is perceived - in Britain.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD TRACEY,
House of Commons,
April 18.

Green belt status

From the President of the House Builders Federation

Sir, The letter from Mr R. G. W. Smith (April 15) about the future protection of the green belt is unfortunately very misleading. The proper consideration of possible development within the green belt, but which no longer serve any green belt policy function, takes place constantly and involves the loss of very small amounts of land each year. This must be seen against the massive and seemingly uncontrolled spread of green belt in recent years. The metropolitan green belt alone has almost doubled in size from 750,000 acres in 1976 to 1.2 million acres by 1984.

Most of this massive expansion of the green belt has been effected by individual county and district plans, without any regional co-ordination to achieve the strategic purposes which Abercrombie and others before him intended green belt to serve.

This has imposed a damaging blanket of restraint on the mobility of industry and housing in the UK economy's major area of growth - growth that needs to be accommodated to maintain international competitiveness, to provide jobs for some of the 3½ million unemployed and to provide a tax-base to help relieve some of the massive problems of de-industrialization in the north.

Therefore, the power that the Secretary of State for the Environment is reserving to make directions on unitary plans, about which Mr Smith complains, is vital if some overall strategic co-ordination or guidance is to be achieved on a wide range of unilateral decisions that could be taken by boroughs who themselves, by their very nature, lack any overall strategic view.

Finally, it should be appreciated that the powers the Secretary of State is proposing to reserve are similar to those he has used since 1968 in respect of structure plans. This is therefore no cause for alarm.

Yours faithfully,
G. C. PYE, President,
The House Builders Federation,
82 New Cavendish Street, W1.

ON THIS DAY

APRIL 24 1804

The Peace of Amiens between Britain, Holland, France and Spain was signed in October, 1801. War, against Napoleon, broke out again in May, 1803, and there were fears that Britain might be invaded. Pitt had been convinced that the peace could not last long and had little faith in the feebleness of the Addington ministry. By 1804 he was strongly opposed to Government policy and spoke accordingly in the Commons on April 23 and 24. Pitt succeeded Addington in May, 1804. The Times single sheet (four pages) of this date is one of a number of the late 18th and early 19th centuries in which there was not a line of advertising - such issues being devoted solely to Parliamentary debates.

DEFENCE OF THE NATION.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, APRIL 23.
Mr. FOX. . . As to Great Britain, they say, that the present force is greater than at the conclusion of the late war, and that it has no effect with me, because the question is, what are our actual preparations for our present dangers? I argue, that these calculations are not so accurate as they are said to be. Before I go into the question of increasing our regular army, I may here notice, that some Gentlemen may think, that if I had had my will, there would have been fewer regular forces than we have at present. I hope there is no man who would think of opposing two questions so contrary to each other, as what should be our military establishment in time of peace, and what in time of war; these could be just comparisons, because these two questions are entirely and essentially different, and stand on separate grounds from each other. . . . If Ministers mean to threaten, at least they should have the justice to menace what they could enforce, and perform. On the predecessors of the Right Hon. Speaker, the duties of his important station, blended some portion of theatrical parade. On one occasion, not being able to enforce the necessity of this even on the Members he should, if obedience were not instantly paid, call out to him by name. "And what if you should name him?" replied the other, "God only knows," returned the Speaker. If the Volunteers were not under the influence of this eventful Bill, even on being named to comply with the Right Hon. Gentleman's wishes, and the consequence were required to be explained in the same spirit, it would be answered, "God only knows!"

Mr. PITT. . . . When I speak of providing for the public safety, I do not mean to be understood as speaking of the necessity of a preventive against ultimate conquest, but I mean to say, that no chance should be given to the enemy to make any impression on us, and that we should be fully prepared to give them an utter defeat, and to obtain lasting security for the future interests of the country. I consider, that the country is defended by 400,000 Volunteers, by a strong Regular force, and a well disciplined Militia. I do not mean to say, that the force is not adequate to its safety, but will I must ask, how many thousands of that force may be assembled, in what time, and in what condition, near any of those points which are likely to be attacked? Here give me leave to say, that in the answer which may be made to my question, I shall not be content with round numbers and with general assurances, for the want of precision, in articles like these has been a radical error, in the whole system of defence, and has afforded a clearer proof of the want of ability on the part of Ministers, in completing the means of security, than anything else, I do not mean. Although the Right Hon. Gentleman has set me the example, to take a retrospective view at any length, for the purpose of applying the results of my researches to the question before the House; but the neglect of which the Executive Government was guilty, in not providing for the event of a war in time of peace, cannot be passed over without some notice. It was in the moment of peace that, in fact, the foundation of a force calculated to resist hostilities with every fair prospect of vigor, promptitude and success should have been laid. The causes for precaution were not wanting, and in truth they have been admitted by Ministers themselves.

Slow delivery?

From Mr Henry Howell

Sir, On page 5 of today's edition (April 18) your lead story is "Letters without a postcode will take longer to deliver from today."

Post Office entries in the London telephone directory cover several pages. Not one address carries its postcode. Indeed, not one address in the whole of the London telephone directory carries a postcode.

Shouldn't Big Brother set a better example? Yours faithfully,
HENRY HOWELL, Chairman,
Pantheon Press Ltd.,
1 Kensington Mall, W8,
April 18.

The Great Divide

From Mr Merlin Minshall

Sir, Your French correspondent, Monsieur Faivre d'Arcey, asks (April 18) when the sea separating England and France became known as "the English Channel" and why.

He will find the answer (1) in Shakespeare (*Richard II*, Act 2) where John of Gaunt talks of England being set in a sea where "which serves it in the office of a wall, or as a moat defensive to a house" and (2) in the figure that stands on the mighty column looking down Whitehall.

Only because the Channel is English is this statue of Nelson and not of Napoleon (nor, for that matter of Hitler or of Philip of Spain). I remain, Sir, yours offensively, (by which, with respect, I mean to imply merely that we English have always believed that it is better to be the hammer rather than the anvil). MERLIN MINSHALL,
The Old Bakery,
Stoke-Ferry,
Kings Lynn,
Norfolk,
April 18.

April 24, 1985

SPECIAL REPORT

CAREERS/1



Getting down to business: Today's school-leavers get a taste of what life in the outside world is like, learning how teams make decisions (left), while IBM can show how science overcomes problems (centre and right)

Why finding a job begins in the classroom

Twenty years ago, the only preparation a school-leaver received for a life of work was often a 20-minute chat in the headmaster's study on the last day of term. Careers education was barely given a thought.

Today, it has become a complex business involving every teacher, prospective employer and a growing number of full-time counsellors all the year round.

The boom has been of necessity. It has responded to the vast changes in the education system, to the changing economy, and more recently has been concerned with coping with, or avoiding unemployment.

In the early 1960s, unemployment among the under 20s stood at under 2 per cent, roughly that of the population as a whole. Grammar school teachers concentrated their efforts on placing pupils in higher education, the youth employment officer, who "poached" pupils for industry, was regarded with vague hostility, and in the universities, appointments officers guided graduates through the bazaar of employment opportunities.

With the advent of the comprehensive education system, careers education made a

filtering start. There was a growing realization that education had to be more relevant to students' futures. Curricula began to reflect this and a career room was found a corner in every school, with a teacher giving out information and advice.

The Robbins report in 1963 heralded an enormous expansion in higher education. The Universities Central Council on Admissions (UCCA) was set up to help manage the choice between courses on offer as new universities were founded.

On an independent initiative, the Careers Research and Advisory Centre (CRAC) was founded to provide information for students to make a better choice of course.

In the mid-1960s, there was a growing trend, started in the United States, to encourage careers "counselling" - helping students to come to their own decision - rather than the old system where a teacher would give advice and suggest a career after assessing a pupil's attributes. Keele, Reading and Leeds Universities set up courses to teach the skills of counselling and the National Association of Careers Teachers was founded.

A growing number of stu-

dents were encouraged to spend some time working in industry and commerce on embryo work experience schemes and in the early 1970s the Understanding British Industry Scheme was launched to improve the image of a career in industry among the young.

Twenty years ago
a school-leaver
got a chat in the
headmaster's study.
Now careers
education is far
more complex

The raising of the school leaving age from 15 to 16 in 1972 brought increasing pressure from the Department of Education and Science for an improvement in the standard of careers guidance in schools.

But the mounting oil crisis had the dual effect of both stifling some of the initiatives being taken in this direction,

because of government cuts on education spending, while at the same time making the need for guidance increasingly urgent.

The time was right for a major national initiative in the field of careers guidance. It was seized by CRAC, which in 1975, together with the Hatfield Polytechnic, founded the joint venture of the National Institute for Careers Guidance and Counselling (NICCE) with the dual function of research into career development and guidance and training for teachers and counsellors on careers education.

In the years 1972-77 unemployment among school-leavers had risen 120 per cent, compared with 45 per cent among the population as a whole. Now, only one-third of school-leavers find employment outside of the Government's Youth Training Schemes within six months of leaving school.

"An important part of NICCE's work in recent years has been to help youngsters think through the implications of unemployment and adopt creative responses to it," said NICCE's director Tony Watts.

There are an increasing number of private career guidance businesses today and a growing number of computer-

aided career guidance services. The Department of Education and Science is inviting tenders at the moment for a sophisticated computer package in this field, which is seen as a major step forward in careers guidance.

Careers education today concerns every teacher, student, employer and a growing number of adults themselves made redundant and in need of re-education about changes to their working lives.

"Careers education of the future," said CRAC council member and veteran careers adviser Geoff Cooksey "will need a very delicate balance between the competence of the service and what the market dictates. There is no doubt it will concern everyone."

Christine Toomey

Games people play to get ready for life at work

Business games have become an integral part of careers education, helping young people to develop the sort of skill sought by employers.

"Gone is the old method of chalk and talk", explained David Blandford, director of the Careers Research and Advisory Centre, which has become increasingly involved in developing business games.

"Students today are expected to develop and use their knowledge in a wide range of subjects by taking an active part in business problems and decisions. Business games enable them to do this without the full risks of actually running a business."

The range of games now available varies from case studies to role playing. They can be simplified simulations - where students make notional decisions on price and production of a product resulting in a scaled-down copy of a real business with real money, resources, products and, they hope, customers.



CRAC director David Blandford

The objective of the games varies likewise from simply encouraging a sense of teamwork - helping students to jointly organize their time and expertise - to forging a real link between industry and the classroom company visits and work experience schemes.

Business games originated as a training method for young managers at the Harvard Business School in the United States. They were developed on the basis that the real world of

business had to be experienced first hand to be understood. The idea was then taken up at business schools around the world in the early 1960s.

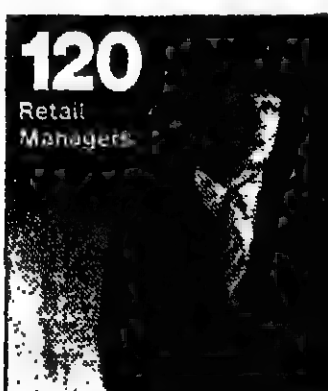
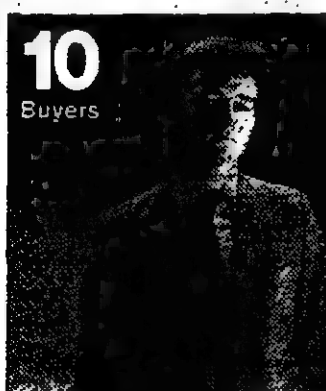
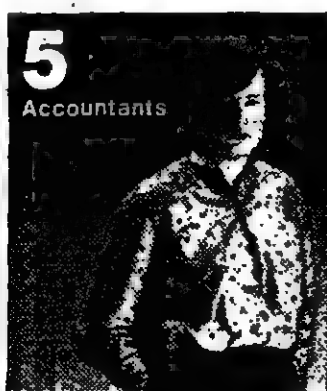
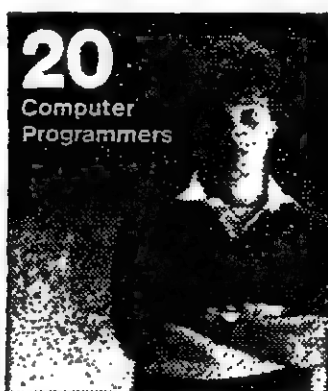
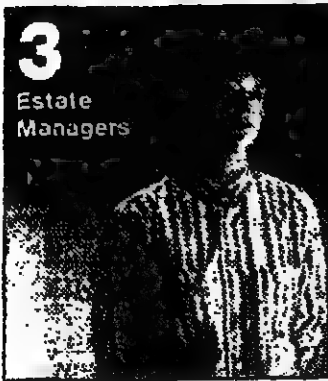
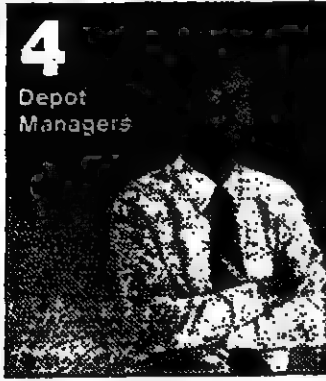
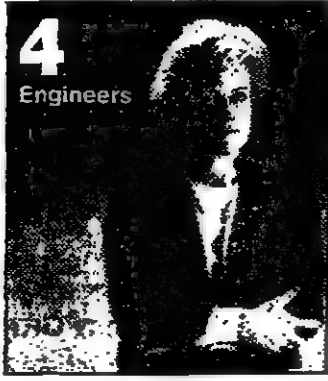
It was the Swann report, published in the UK in 1968, which highlighted the chronic shortage of scientists, engineers and technologists going into industry, that first prompted CRAC to suggest the use of business games outside business schools - in secondary schools and higher education.

But, Mr Blandford explained, CRAC found most business games available at that time required a level of knowledge beyond the ability of schoolchildren and undergraduates.

Over the past 10 years, therefore, with the co-operation of a number of large companies such as Tube Investments, BP, Metal Box and ICI, CRAC has developed a series of games aimed at students with a limited grasp of the business world. It has also helped prepare case studies on smaller businesses.

CT

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Computer
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Over the years we've been building up a reputation for excellence second to none and we've also enjoyed outstanding growth and success. In a recent 4 year period, we increased our staff by 50% to over 60,000 and at the same time managed to double our profits.

We sell 20 million items each day and in the course of last year alone, invested more than £225m in property, building and equipment.

As we continue to grow, we create more opportunities each year for young people to share in our success. In 1985 we're looking for 167 graduates and over 500 A-level trainees, for careers in all areas of the company.

Our growth also means we can offer employees excellent prospects for advancement. Last year 50% of the staff in our buying departments were promoted. The majority of our A-level and graduate recruits

work in retail management. The pace of store life is exhilaratingly fast and responsibility comes early. In what other career could you be responsible for 250 staff and a £12m annual turnover whilst still in your twenties?

We're able to offer such early advancement through continuous and rigorous training programmes, (what you learn will always lead to the next step on the ladder).

These programmes are continually being developed because it is only by putting new ideas and skills into practice that we can continue to grow.

We also participate in the CRAC Insight Programme which aims to improve understanding of business enterprise, the role of management and the kind of skills required.

If all this sounds like food for thought in your search for a career, (or if you are responsible for careers guidance to others), then why not write and find out more from Chris Ward, Recruitment Manager, J Sainsbury plc, Wakefield House, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LL.

Bridging that gap

British Telecom is strongly committed to the development of stronger links between Education and Industry. We show this in a practical way - through our own education services; through involvement in organisations such as Understanding British Industry; and, not least, through sponsorship of CRAC's Insight programme.

We would like to congratulate CRAC on its excellent work over the last 21 years and wish it continued success in the future.

British Telecom Education Service, British Telecom Centre, B4, 81 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AJ.

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Gas provides nearly sixty per cent of all the heat used in British homes - and it's a powerful and growing force in industry, too. Britain's gas industry is also a major high-technology business providing relevant resources for education. That's why more and more schools have been asking for the materials provided by the British Gas Education Service, since its inception almost ten years ago.

As well as providing education with materials from its direct mail catalogue, the service is backed by a local field force of around 250 Regional Advisers. Part of their work brings them into schools where they are able to build 'bridges' between subject specialists and the gas industry's engineers, scientists and operational management. This liaison between industry and education, which is echoed at all levels in British Gas, has led to a number of major collaborative curriculum development projects.

If you would like to know more about the British Gas Education Service, you can see the Catalogue on Prestel page *211443#. Or write to Education Liaison Officer, Room 707A, FREEPOST, 326 High Holborn, London WC1V 7BR, mentioning this advertisement.

Gas

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British Aerospace values the contribution of CRAC in bringing us closer together.



BRITISH AEROSPACE

CAREERS/2

SPECIAL REPORT

The Key Link in the Chain

Congratulations to CRAC on their 21st. With their work considered a fundamental influence on improving links between education and the business sector, we are proud to have been associated with this venture for many years.

The need for students and teachers to grasp the workings and expectations of business enterprises has never been more important. In response to CRAC's initiative, Marks & Spencer is one of the companies that provides young managers on a regular basis for CRAC's Insight Programme.

We are actively recruiting entrants for our 1985 Graduate Training Scheme, which is open to students of any discipline. We are recruiting for four main areas in our organisation: commercial; personnel; administration and warehouse management.

For further information, write to: Management Recruitment, Marks & Spencer, Michael House, 57 Baker Street, London W1A 1DN.

Marks & Spencer

Hi-tech in the class

The past decade has seen rapid and far-reaching changes in relationships between industry and education with the educational establishment giving an enthusiastic welcome to more company involvement in schools and universities.

Many companies have set up projects in schools and higher education with the main thrust in the technological area in an attempt to counter present and future technology skill shortages.

The format of industry's links with education ranges from local contacts between a school and a company through visits and exhibitions, to industry-sponsored courses for teachers and gifts or loans of sophisticated machinery.

Dr Brian Kingston, education relations manager for IBM, spent two years on secondment with the Society of Education Officers and helped draw up a "key issues" paper which established guidelines for the development of links between industry and education.

Dr Kingston said the aim was to make sense of the "scrambled" message that education gets from industry and to help and influence education. The result has been, at the very least, that technology and business studies are now considered serious subjects in schools and colleges.

IBM's contribution in the information technology area has been to set up projects with five local education authorities, putting 150 personal computers and software into schools. Each project uses the computers for different programmes so that there is a wide spread of experience and in addition to donating the equipment the



Dr Brian Kingston: Influencing education

company is pumping £200,000 into the project.

Oil companies have been active for some time in working with schools and an innovative three-year programme in three education authorities which is sponsored by BP is getting off the ground. The aim in the Hertfordshire, Essex and West Glamorgan areas is to improve teaching skills in preparing children in the 11 to 16 years range for the "outside world" in three disciplines: economic literacy, technological capability or pre-vocational preparation.

At the end of the programme 25 schools will have gone through each discipline leading to a core of six teachers in each school forming a nucleus of better practice and teaching in

preparing pupils for working life. The project has been jointly organised with Careers Research and Advisory Centres.

Shell has funded a project for sixth-form physics students to examine stresses on metal by using a computer programme which simulates the company's tanker fleet and in particular the stresses on propellers. The programme was developed at King's College, London, and is available to schools at £10 a pack, roughly half price.

Field trials have been held in about 20 schools as Shell and physics teachers try to give pupils a more practical application of the theories they are learning in the classroom.

David Felton

The plan to link every school with industry

"Thanks to Industry" is a slogan that will be heard a lot during the next 18 months as Industry Year 1986 tries to increase public awareness of the productive side of the economy.

As well as bringing industry's role into a publicity spotlight for 12 months and persuading industry itself to improve contacts with the community, a key aim of the year-long campaign is to expand links between education and industry.

It will focus on setting targets to link every secondary school and as many junior schools as possible with a local company by the end of 1986 to develop mutual understanding and concentrate on curriculum development. A second target is to stimulate the role of industry in all teacher training, a wish shared with the Department of Education and Science and thirdly it is hoped to increase the provision for in-service training of teachers by stepping up exchanges with companies.

Industry Year 1986 has been designated by the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA) and arose out of the series of discussions and consultations held over the past decade at St George's House, Windsor, where a forum of academics, politicians and businessmen have been meeting to discuss the country's ills.

Sir Geoffrey Chandler, former director of the National Economic Development Office and director of Industry Year 1986, said: "Attitudes towards

industry have changed little since the days when Jane Austen's Emma described Robert Martin as a mere vulgar farmer interested in nothing but profit and loss, though today farming, uniquely among industries, is benignly regarded."

He said it had become clear that what were defined as causes of the country's relative industrial decline were in fact symptoms. "They are symptoms of an inherited culture and of attitudes which put industrial activity at the bottom of the social pecking order and of an education which by ignoring and denigrating it, obscures the connection between quality life and industrial success," Sir Geoffrey said.

The campaign for Industry Year will include a media drive, exhibitions and public events, starting in September this year at a national level but much of the work will be done at regional and local levels.

One of the keys to the impact of the campaign, according to Diane McMahon, the deputy director, will be whether it has any long-term value and to this end the organizers are already discussing what kind of body needs to be in place to continue the work after 1986.

The campaign has the support of both sides of industry with unions and management working closely together at regional level and the Duke of Edinburgh, who is the RSA's patron, is expected to play a prominent role next year.

DF

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THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A JOB AND A CAREER IS CRAC

Educational and careers advice today must take into account the demands of high-technology industries as well as the employment opportunities they represent.

In congratulating CRAC on its 21 years of valuable work, Plessey is aware that its continuing leadership worldwide in telecommunications, defence electronic systems and component technology will always depend on its people. The Plessey Company plc, Vicarage Lane, Ilford, Essex, IG1 4AQ.

PLESSEY

As academics prepare themselves for the outcome of the Government's long-promised Green Paper on higher education, some predict that the 1990s will be very different from today.

New private universities and colleges specializing in high technology will have opened their doors, and traditional educational institutions will have shifted their emphasis from research to teaching the skills demanded by commerce and industry.

It is not a prospect relished by those wedded to the Robbins principle that has dominated higher education since 1963 making it available to all who were qualified to pursue it.

But the ethos of higher education is changing, said Dr David Harrison, vice-chancellor of Exeter University and chairman of the management committee of the Central Services Unit, which co-ordinates careers services in more than 80 universities, polytechnics and colleges of further education.

"Higher education is being forced to become more vocationally minded and, though there may be no dramatic closures of institutions over the next few years, the slow haemorrhaging of funds will have a far more insidious effect."

The 17 per cent reduction in government spending on higher education announced in 1981

and anticipation that grants will run at 2 per cent per year below inflation for the rest of the decade, have prompted a series of new initiatives among those hardest hit.

Salford University is a prime example of this, reacting to the largest single cut at any university of 44 per cent in 1981 by launching a high-powered marketing campaign, unrivalled in the UK, to attract investment from the private sector.

The Government is now considering a £190 million plan to turn part of the university due for demolition into an information technology institute.

Jealously protecting academic freedom

tute funded partly by industry which would then "have direct involvement in determining the institute's academic programmes and management".

Traditionally, universities have jealously protected their academic freedom. Their money has come through the buffer of the University Grants Committee, which advises but does not dictate how the money is spent.

But Salford's proposals are pure survival tactics coming hot on the heels of the Butcher report, compiled by the Department of Trade and Industry's skills shortages committee, which forecast a shortfall of 5,000 information technology

Campaigning against the cuts

students in three years' time and shortages in the engineering and computer sciences.

Cranfield Institute of Technology has recently merged four of its departments to form a new school of information technology, and the Government is known to be considering setting up a new, private university at Milton Keynes to solve this skill shortage.

Last month Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced that a total of £43 million was to be given to universities during the next three years to enable them to take 4,000 more engineering and technical students - the start of what the Government wants to see from arts subjects to sciences.

The university careers advisory services, which once had the task of helping graduates to decide between job offers, are increasingly occupied with tutoring students on how to pitch their skills at the job market.

In addition all institutes of higher education are being forced to be far more "management and efficiency" conscious.

Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, chairman of the University Grants Committee, has already warned universities that some departments will have to close in his controversial announcement that the UGC is to introduce a more selective system of grants based on the "worthiness" of a department's research.

As each institution struggles to find its feet in the increasingly competitive market place of higher education the one issue that seems to have the academic world united is admissions.

All fully reject government suggestions that student places should be cut to meet predictions of a fall in demand in the mid-1990s of between 40,000 and 70,000 students.

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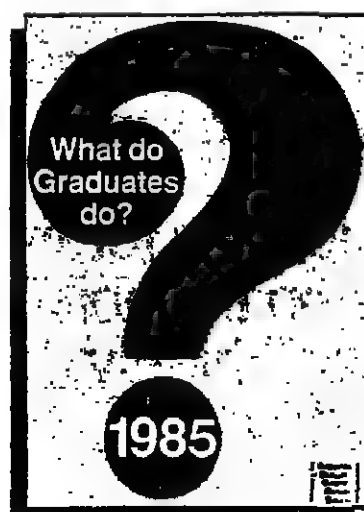
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SPECIAL REPORT

CAREERS/3

The Eton scholar who worked as a builder's labourer

When Adrian Bridgewater left Eton to work on construction sites, he found himself in a state of shock, not simply because of the obviously different environment, but because he had never once in five years at his school heard any mention of the word "industry".

Two years later, when he resumed study, he found a similar lack of recognition at Cambridge University of the role of industry.

And that gave him the idea for the Careers Research and Advisory Centre, which he formed with a like-minded Cambridge student, Tony Watts. Twenty-one years later CRAC is still functioning as an independent body and educational charity, resting between the power blocs of industry and education, trying to promote better preparation of young people for adult and working life.

It has grown in size, with an annual turnover of nearly £750,000, and has spawned two offshoots, the Hobsons publishing house - of which Mr Bridgewater is managing director and which produces specialist educational publications, including all CRAC's literature - and the National Institute for Careers Education and Counselling.

NICEC, headed by Mr Watts, is a joint venture with Hatfield Polytechnic and is active in running courses and co-operating in projects with industry, which are designed to improve the quality of guidance and advice given in schools or higher education to people trying to make a decision about their careers. The body has played a strong role in the development of and guidance offered by the Youth Training Scheme.

David Blandford, CRAC's director, said the organization has set out to change the

traditional view taken of careers advice that it was so unimportant that it could be left to the sports master to handle in his spare time. In its 21 years, that attitude has almost disappeared.

CRAC now focuses its attention in three related areas - careers education, technology and business - and claims to have made a lot of headway in changing careers from being the "runt of the educational litter" to a subject that is taken seriously in schools and colleges.

CRAC has a full-time staff of 20 but is seeking to increase the number of member companies so that higher subscription income will allow an expansion of its operations. At the moment about 120 companies, which are mainly the leading blue-chip businesses, pay between £400 and £600 a year but now a drive is being mounted to double membership and subscription income.

That income now accounts for about 10 per cent of CRAC's turnover and a doubling will provide a more secure base for an organization that has weathered several financial crises during its 21 years. The anniversary was celebrated with a dinner in the City last week.

About 40 per cent of CRAC's turnover is devoted to its Insight programmes, in which young managers are brought together with students to take part in problem-solving and role-playing so that, as the title of the programmes suggests, the pupils are given an insight into business and commerce. The programmes are mainly designed for sixth-formers and undergraduates and the three or four-day courses can be an "illuminating experience" for the managers as well.

The courses use business games, simulations and case studies.

DF

Some are more equal than others

Titillating court cases involving Junoesque waitresses fighting for the right to wear size 16 overalls have been widely regarded as side-shows in a campaign, already won, for equality in employment.

For it is often assumed that the Equal Pay and Sex Discrimination Acts of 1975, and the more recent Equal Pay Act, introduced in January 1984, would solve the problems encountered by women.

The reality is that women still earn just 74.2 per cent of the average male wage, 60 per cent of women workers are employed in just three occupational categories: clerical, welfare and education, while in industry, the majority are employed in unskilled manual work - the very sector where significant redundancies are forecast.

"Women have come a long way", says the chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, Baroness Platt of Wiltshire. There is a 50 per cent female student membership of the British Medical Association and 14.4 per cent woman membership of the Institute of Bankers. "But they still have a long way to go", says the baroness.

The commission has come under fire in the past from those who felt that it needed stronger powers to penalize by law

companies that could not prove they offered equal opportunities.

A new code of practice for employers, drawn up by the EOC and approved by the House of Commons this month, seeks both to educate employers about indirect discrimination and to suggest ways in which they can improve the prospects of their women employees.

But with a projected third fewer 18-year-olds coming on to the job market in 10 years' time, and the trend towards more highly qualified employment, a growing number of employers are realizing that they need to change their attitude toward recruiting young women, and need to encourage those they have already trained to return to work after a career break.

The clearing banks, National Westminster, Midland and Lloyds, have been among the first to introduce pilot re-entry schemes to help women bridge a career break by keeping them in touch with developments in new technology. Other large firms, GEC, British Gas, Plessey, Thorn-EMI and Esso, have become increasingly involved in encouraging girls to join their workforce.

And a growing number of firms are becoming involved in the EOC's much publicized WISE project. Women into

Science and Engineering, sponsoring an information bus which will be pulling into school playgrounds across the country again in the autumn.

Education remains a vital factor in the work of the EOC according to Baroness Platt. The number of girls passing A-level mathematics has risen by about 10 per cent during the past 10 years. But it is still only 27.4 per cent of that total, and the number of girls passing A-level computer science remains steady at around 20 per cent, even though job prospects for women and men are in the information technology field are expanding.

Now that one in the marriages ends in divorce and divorce law reforms are designed to remove the idea of marriage as a meal ticket for life, the idea that women do not need or will not benefit from education is fast becoming an anachronism.

At the higher education level, the EOC, industry and the Government have introduced a number of new courses to encourage women into the less traditional areas of employment. There are now 100 colleges of further education and polytechnics running courses in these subjects exclusively for women.

CT

The advantages of a degree

"Myths and rumours about graduate employment are widespread and often dangerously inaccurate."

This was the reaction of Robert Porter, chairman of the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services, to the gloomy picture of graduate employment prospects being painted after the release last summer of statistics on graduates of 1982.

Unemployment among graduates that year stood at 13 per cent, the worst for many years. The following year it fell to 11 per cent and there is optimism that it may be reduced this year to the 1980 figure of 8 per cent. As Mr Porter pointed out, in a recession graduates are the last to feel the effects of unemployment, and coming out of a recession they are the first to feel the benefits. "We are ending up with a smaller workforce but a greater proportion have to have higher skills", he said.

Overall job prospects for graduates have improved over the past year with business and administration students and those in electronics and com-

puter sciences facing the least difficulty in finding work, according to the AGCAS's latest survey. The proportion of graduates entering banking and insurance has improved, and accountancy still recruits nearly 10 per cent of the UK's first degree graduates.

More than 30 per cent of vacancies for graduates are open to students from any discipline with "personality, ideas, manner, appearance and motivation", qualities the report stressed as becoming increasingly important in determining success in finding a job.

Keith Bell, student recruitment partner at Price Waterhouse and chairman of the Standing Conference of Employers of Graduates, emphasized that even the strictly scientific disciplines such as engineering are now placing more emphasis on such skills.

Despite the increased demand for graduates, however, the pattern and timing of recruitment is far more sporadic than in the past. The process of finding a job has become more protracted.

The Milk Round - that annual whirlwind tour of the national universities and polytechnics by recruiting employers on the lookout for the coming year's intake - has evolved. Since its introduction in the 1950s, from a safari where employers vied with each other for the best candidates, it has become now more of a tripwire to stop the wrong kind of candidate getting too far into the costly and elaborate selection process.

A growing number of graduates are now postponing their career decisions until after their final examinations, allowing them to concentrate on getting their degree. This has led to a growth in the number of summer recruitment fairs giving employers the opportunity to fill vacancies they either did not anticipate or were unable to fill earlier in the year.

There has been a marked increase in the degree of sponsorship of students, particularly at polytechnics and colleges of higher education, by many of the big firms.

CT

Training as an investment

The introduction to the Government's White Paper on education and training for young people, published last month, said: "Any young people leaving school today will not retire until the second third of the next century. If the present rate of change is maintained, they will be working in a world unimaginable to us."

A measure of the importance that the Government attaches to improving training and educational opportunities for the 14 to 18 age group, was the appearance of no fewer than three ministers at the launch of the paper, including Lord Young, who was taken into the Cabinet by the Prime Minister, as Minister without Portfolio, from the chairmanship of the Manpower Services Commission.

Lord Young has made clear his views on the country's need to catch up with training levels in European competitor countries. "We need to break down the artificial barriers between education and training so that the process is recognized as a continuum beginning in school



Lord Young: "We need to catch up"

and continuing throughout working life", he said.

"I believe there is a widespread recognition of the need for change and for a new framework within which all those concerned with developing and harnessing young people's abilities can play their part. Effective education and training is an investment in our future."

The White Paper identified three fields for action. A £25 million scheme for in-service teacher training, related to the

Technical and Vocational Education Initiative (TVEI) is to be launched. TVEI, which is still operating only on pilot schemes, is designed to improve the technical education of pupils in schools and colleges.

The Cabinet has decided to devote extra resources, also, to the Youth Training Scheme: an extra £425 million is to be spent over the next three years on extending the scheme to a second year and guaranteeing a place for all 16- and 17-year-old unemployed school-leavers. About 400,000 places will be provided by YTS this year at a cost of about £800 million.

The third proposal in the White Paper was a joint review to be undertaken by the Manpower Services Commission and the Department of Education and Science of the structure of vocational qualifications. The review will take into account the interests of employers, local authorities and examining boards and will first concentrate on improving the system of qualifications to meet the needs of an expanded YTS.

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2	Yonkers (PH)			2	Yonkers (PH)		2	Yonkers (PH)	
3	SI			3	SI		3	SI	
4	Turner & Newall			4	Turner & Newall		4	Turner & Newall	
5	Spirax-Sarco			5	Spirax-Sarco		5	Spirax-Sarco	
6	Triples			6	Triples		6	Triples	
7	Wagon Ind			7	Wagon Ind		7	Wagon Ind	
8	TI			8	TI		8	TI	
9	Utd Parents			9	Utd Parents		9	Utd Parents	
10	Smith & Nephew			10	Smith & Nephew		10	Smith & Nephew	
11	ELECTRICIAN			11	ELECTRICIAN		11	ELECTRICIAN	
12	Yokai			12	Yokai		12	Yokai	
13	Forward Tech			13	Forward Tech		13	Forward Tech	
14	STC			14	STC		14	STC	
15	Pharm			15	Pharm		15	Pharm	
16	Arvin Ele			16	Arvin Ele		16	Arvin Ele	
17	Lee Refrigeration			17	Lee Refrigeration		17	Lee Refrigeration	
18	City Elect			18	City Elect		18	City Elect	
19	Sealed Diffusion			19	Sealed Diffusion		19	Sealed Diffusion	
20	Auto Ser			20	Auto Ser		20	Auto Ser	
21	DRAPERY AND STORES			21	DRAPERY AND STORES		21	DRAPERY AND STORES	
22	Habitat Mothercare			22	Habitat Mothercare		22	Habitat Mothercare	
23	Empire Stores			23	Empire Stores		23	Empire Stores	
24	Helene of London			24	Helene of London		24	Helene of London	
25	Lee Cooper			25	Lee Cooper		25	Lee Cooper	
26	Beattie James "A"			26	Beattie James "A"		26	Beattie James "A"	
27	Mark & Spencer			27	Mark & Spencer		27	Mark & Spencer	
28	Home Choice			28	Home Choice		28	Home Choice	
29	Fine Art Dev			29	Fine Art Dev		29	Fine Art Dev	
30	Beaumont			30	Beaumont		30	Beaumont	
31	FOODS			31	FOODS		31	FOODS	
32	Island Fruit			32	Island Fruit		32	Island Fruit	
33	Trico			33	Trico		33	Trico	
34	Meat Trade Supp			34	Meat Trade Supp		34	Meat Trade Supp	
35	Carrs Milling			35	Carrs Milling		35	Carrs Milling	
36	Neckers			36	Neckers		36	Neckers	
37	Meat Fish			37	Meat Fish		37	Meat Fish	
38	Long (Wm)			38	Long (Wm)		38	Long (Wm)	
39	Park Foods			39	Park Foods		39	Park Foods	
40	Blackford Conf			40	Blackford Conf		40	Blackford Conf	

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £40,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

UNDATED

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

INDEX-LINKED

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

BREWERS

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

ELECTRICALS

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

INDUSTRIALS

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

INDUSTRIALS

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

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1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

INDUSTRIALS

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

INDUSTRIALS

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities fall again

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday, Dealings End, April 26, Contango Day, April 29, Settlement Day, May 7.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1985 High	1985 Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	P/E
110	108	General Motors	109.50	-0.50	-0.5	12.5
105	103	Ford	104.00	-0.50	-0.5	11.5
100	98	British Leyland	99.00	-0.50	-0.5	10.5
95	93	British Aerospace	94.00	-0.50	-0.5	9.5
90	88	British Telecom	89.00	-0.50	-0.5	8.5
85	83	British Airways	84.00	-0.50	-0.5	7.5
80	78	British Airways	79.00	-0.50	-0.5	6.5
75	73	British Airways	74.00	-0.50	-0.5	5.5
70	68	British Airways	69.00	-0.50	-0.5	4.5
65	63	British Airways	64.00	-0.50	-0.5	3.5

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55	53	British Airways	54.00	-0.50	-0.5	2.5
50	48	British Airways	49.00	-0.50	-0.5	1.5
45	43	British Airways	44.00	-0.50	-0.5	0.5
40	38	British Airways	39.00	-0.50	-0.5	
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15	13	British Airways	14.00	-0.50	-0.5	
10	8	British Airways	9.00	-0.50	-0.5	
5	3	British Airways	4.00	-0.50	-0.5	
0	0	British Airways	0.00	-0.50	-0.5	

COMMODITIES

COMPANY NEWS

COMPANY NEWS

Damian Aspinall, Phoenix will develop the residential block to its potential and dispose of the flat individually or the block as a whole.

● **BESTWOOD:** The chairman, Mr A. Cole, has told the annual meeting that the bulk of the company's present resources is vested in a stake in Forsay, with the remaining trading interest being the subsidiary John Brown (Printers). Given that Bestwood has only a 46 per cent stake in Forsay, the company is not in a position to influence the policy and the chairman has instructed the company's financial advisers to review the position to examine the options available to the board concerning the future of the company's relationship with Forsay.

● **SALE TILNEY** has bought 30 per cent of equity share capital of Tilney Mhy, Malaysia (ST MHY) for Malaysia's 13,000

The unit trust industry sold a record 999.5 million units during the first quarter of this year. But substantial profit-taking by investors at the end of the tax year led to a purchases worth almost half this amount, leaving net unit sales at \$484.5 million for the quarter, compared with \$544.9 million for last year's first quarter. During March, net new investment rose by \$154.1 million. The value of assets under management rose to \$16.4 billion to \$16.3 billion down \$204 million from February.

payable in cash. ST MHY is incorporated in Malaysia and acts as insurance consultants.

● **SONS OF GWALLA**, which announced a record gold production for the first quarter, will pay a maiden dividend. The total dividend of 7.5 cents is payable on May 17, almost two years after Stock Exchange listing.

● **THE LALDINGS** has sold the chairman has sold 1.75 million shares from his beneficial holding. "The chairman has no more any shares", it said.

● **MORGAN CRUCIBLE** of the 11.27 million new ordinary shares offered by way of rights, over 92.5 per cent have been taken up. The shares not taken up have been sold and the excess over the subscription price (net) of about \$24.298 per share will be distributed to those shareholders who applied for provisional allotment. Privately identified whose rights have not been taken up except that no payment will be made of amounts of less than

£2, which will be retained for the benefit of the company. The writers have been relieved of their liabilities.

● **ASSOCIATED BOUTLEDOGE** Accepted offer by Associated Bouteledge to acquire Routledge & Paul have been received of 1.1 million ordinary representing 96.7 per cent issued ordinary capital, has become outstanding.

● **INGALL INDUSTRIES** board of Ingall has come announcement by acceptances of its offer to 0.37 per cent of Ingall and of the extension of Ingall and its advisers, a unanimous advice that wholly unacceptable.

● **CLEMENT CLARK** Ltd. Final 2,587,950 4,332sp (4,063) for 1991, 5,000 (Turnover, 19,978) Pre-tax profit 1,294 (2,151) (1990).

● **ISF Group** net profit up from 517.1 million to 895.4 million marks (£23.3) Dividend raised from seven marks a share.

● **HOECHST GROUP** for 1984, 1.3 billion (1983 million), against 909 million Dividend raised from seven marks.

● **BANRO INDUSTRIAL** chairman, Mr Edward Reid, his annual statement of company is confident of substantial advance in production year and expects plans for next year.

● **WYKO GROUP** Merchant Bank is placing million ordinary shares in 65p per share. At this company want have capitalization of about £1 Dealings on the USM are to begin next Monday. E the assure Murray and Co.

● **PERINSULAN** A total applications were received million shares (excluding donations from employees). The allotment is 200 million shares applied for = in full 5,000 shares - about 60 with a minimum of 1,000 3,500 to 11,000 shares - per cent with a minimum of 1,000 and over 100 per cent with a minimum Applications from employees been allotted in full a resulted in the allotment shares.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank
Adam & Company
Barclays
BCCI
Citibank Savings
Consolidated Credits
Consomental Trust
C. H. Morgan & Co.
Lloyds Bank
Midland Bank
Nat Westminster
TSB
Williams & Glyn's
Citibank NA

* Mortgage Base Rate.

IN Bank	1
am & Company	1
relays	1
CI	1
bank Savings	1
nsolidated Crds	1
nnimental Trust	1
Hoare & Co	1
yds Bank	1
land Bank	1
Westminster	1
B	1
liams & Glyn's	1
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New generation of developer outguns yesterday's property world heroes

Months of speculation about the future of the Clark family's stake in Stock Conversion and Investment Trust ended yesterday as Stockley won the bidding for a quarter of the company. Judith Huntley and Patience Wheatcroft look at the people behind the deal which furthers the ambitions of Stockley's founders, Mr Stuart Lipton, Mr Elliott Bernard and Mr Jacob Rothschild, currently the darlings of the property world and the City.



Two generations of successful developers: from left, the late Mr Robert Clark and Mr Joe Levy, and Mr Elliott Bernard and Mr Stuart Lipton.

Successful property developers must be shrewd, far-sighted and opportunistic. Thirty years ago, Mr Robert Clark and Mr Joe Levy had all those attributes and used them to build up one of Britain's largest property companies, The Stock Conversion and Investment Trust.

Today, Mr Clark is dead and Mr Levy is an old man, and a new generation of aggressive developers is chasing the assets they accumulated. Mr Stuart Lipton and Mr Elliott Bernard set up Stockley less than 18 months ago, but yesterday Stockley acquired nearly a quarter of Stock Conversion and its ambitions do not stop there.

Until a fortnight ago, its only real asset was the prospect of developing the massive, 90-acre Stockley park business near Heathrow airport. Then the company bought the British property assets of European Ferries for £61.4 million, a deal it has yet to digest.

Now Stockley has come out on top and fought off other bidders for the Clark family stake in Stock Conversion. It is

a move which has provoked turmoil in the boardroom of Stock Conversion.

Mr Peter Levy, who became a director of Stock Conversion two weeks ago, believes the deal will make his father, Mr Joe Levy, "very sad".

But when Mr Robin Clark took over control of the family trust on the death of his father last year, he decided he wanted to swap Stock Conversion shares for cash.

Twenty years ago, Stock Conversion's portfolio consisted of the most prime property. Today that is no longer the case. Apart from its £50 million half-share in the Euston Centre in London, the assets range from offices in Glasgow to the White City stadium in west London.

The portfolio is showing its age, with less than attractive office buildings now in need of refurbishment and hardly any exposure to that hotspot of the property market, the retail sector. But is the unrealized potential in Stock Conversion's portfolio which makes it tempting bait for Stockley.

But the founders of Stockley have a reputation as trouble-shooters in the property industry. Mr Stuart Lipton built up one property company in the heyday of development but was one of the few who managed to get out before boom turned to bust when in 1973 he sold out to Town & City.

He then joined with Mr Geoffrey Wilson to run Greychat Estates, one of the most active developers of the early Eighties, which ran into pressurized problems with its plans to redevelop the Coin Street site on the South Bank.

But as it turned out, the company was probably glad to get out of Coin Street. The office market south of the river was in the doldrums and the sale back to the Greater London Council could be seen as a blessing in disguise.

Mr Lipton left Greychat early in 1983 and within months launched his own scheme for redeveloping Liverpool Street station in the City of London. Then, before the end of that

year, he joined forces with Mr Elliott Bernard, of Michael Laurie & Partners, the estate agents, and Mr Jacob Rothschild of Jacob Rothschild Holdings.

Their target was Trust Securities, the ailing company set up by Mr Peter Jones with the main intention of developing Stockley Park. Trust Securities was easy prey for the new consortium, christened Stockley, which bought the company and its much-valued potential for £4.7 million.

Stockley had been hot on the acquisition trail since the day it started. Not long before it bought the Eurymedea portfolio, it acquired the Seckville Estate for £19.7 million with a parcel of properties in the West End of London. It is now examining these with a view to releasing their development potential.

And the company is engaged in regenerating three office buildings owned by Unilever, behind its Blackfriars headquarters in the City. Stockley now has a sky-high

stock market rating which was originally based on little more than hope value and the City's admiration for the keen business minds behind it. Mr Jacob Rothschild now has more than 9 per cent of Stockley.

It is his company which is providing a vital element in the financing of Stockley's purchase of Stock Conversion and should there eventually be a full-scale bid from Stockley, J. Rothschild Holdings would be able to provide the necessary backing.

Mr Rothschild is something of a maverick in financial circles, having split from the family Rothschild banking business several years ago. His strong entrepreneurial streak makes him a useful ally for Messrs Lipton and Bernard.

Stock Conversion has succumbed to the fate of some well-established property companies by sitting back on its laurels and not aggressively seeking opportunity. Leaner, hungrier developers like Stockley, on the other hand, are ever on the lookout for chances to use their management abilities and acquire an asset base.

The question remains as to whether Messrs Lipton and Bernard have bitten off more than they can chew. The acquisition of the Stock Conversion stake as an asset to the company remains in bad but no one knows how bad. The lack of financial data is also keeping the potential bidders for, and saviours of, Burnet at bay.

There are willing buyers in the wing but they will not move until they know what they are letting themselves in for. The borrowings position will be eased by the sale of UK Petroleum Products, the oil distribution subsidiary, to Powell Duffryn for £10.3 million. It is a lot less than the £15 million Burnet had hoped for when the business was first put up for sale but these are hard times. It seems a good deal for Powell Duffryn since it broadens its geographic coverage and also takes it into petrol distribution for the first time.

Burnett & Hallamshire given a late breather

Burnett & Hallamshire's fight for survival has gone into the final period of extra time. Yesterday's announcement of a temporary extension of banking facilities, the sale of the oil distribution business and the intention to dispose of the troubled Californian properties was certainly a break in the ominous silence which the company has maintained of late. However, it still leaves a lot of unanswered questions about the company's future.

The decision by the banks not to pull the plug on Burnet at this stage is perhaps more of an ultimatum than a vote of confidence in its prospects.

Whether lending facilities will be granted on a permanent basis will depend very much on the company's ability to demonstrate that it is putting its house in order and also on the conclusions of the business review being carried out by Price Waterhouse, the accountants.

Without any detailed information on the extent of Burnet's soaring borrowings, the extent of the writedowns on the Californian properties and the provisions against the Iraq and US coal operations the company remains in bad but no one knows how bad. The lack of financial data is also keeping the potential bidders for, and saviours of, Burnet at bay.

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The business never sat too easily in Burnet's group structure so the disposal is tactically sound. A more pressing investment, however, is the Californian properties which are at the root of the present difficulties. Burnet has now said that complete divestment is the ultimate objective. It has taken a long time for the company to take this decision and it can only be hoped that it

will not take quite so long to find a buyer.

Clearly the next few months will be crucial in determining the ultimate outcome at Burnet. More detailed information, especially in the summer which might flush out potential bidders. Until then, investors can only reminisce about the heady days earlier in the decade when the shares were worth close to £10.

Yesterday's closed down another 30p. It is a shame only for the bravest of speculators.

Moss Bros

Moss Bros' advertising slogan "Don't forget the formalities" appears to be paying dividends. Pretax profits in the year ended January 26, 1985 were 57 per cent higher at £1.02 million on turnover up 8 per cent.

Margins widened because of continued economies of scale from the Fairdale acquisition in 1982 and after the closure of the unprofitable Paris shop and two small outlets in Britain.

Both the hire side, where Moss Bros claims more than half the British market, and the retail side, which accounts for more than 50 per cent of turnover, did well. The fashion element in men's formal wear is now far more important, providing a boost to the retail side, but shortening the life of a hire suit to two to three years.

Turnover in the current year is so far 10 per cent ahead. There is some scope left for further productivity gains and, following the success of the Fairdale purchase, the company is looking for more acquisitions. It is also experimenting with a new type of hire shop with a wider range of suits called Occasions. The first Occasions is trading in Solihull and a second opens in Guildford in June.

The real ace up Moss Bros' sleeve is its Covent Garden site, where planning permission for a £10 million redevelopment is eagerly awaited. The company hopes for a decision in the next two months.

The site was valued at £3.5 million four years ago, but must be worth more than double that now following a more than doubling of rents. The shares dropped 20p to 39p, following a 100p run-up

in the past month. Takeover rumours persist but the shares are tightly held.

Kwik-Fit

Kwik-Fit (Tyres and Exhausts) wrong footed the stock market and scorched a hole in the forecast of £3.2 million from its own broker Phillips & Drew yesterday, reporting a pretax profit for 1984 of £4.2 million, with £4.1 million.

The year was a tale of two very different halves. Longer-life exhausts had left manufacturers with excess stocks which they dumped on to the market depressing prices and leaving Kwik-Fit's first half £700,000 down at £1.7 million.

The second half was another story. The tyre manufacturers put their house in order by rationalizing production so there was much less dumping and prices started to recover. Kwik-Fit had continued to spend heavily on advertising and promotion - £4.7 million for the full year - and then launched a long overdue profit-sharing scheme to put its top depot managers into the £25,000-a-year bracket.

The scheme encouraged managers to be more profit-conscious and in a high margin business a determination to cut costs swiftly worked its way through to the profit and loss account.

It is estimated that the first half shakeout on the exhaust business probably knocked £2.5 million off group profits. The chairman, Mr Tom Farmer, is expecting to recover a lot although not all of it in the current year which, against a background of much firmer prices, has got underway with sales about 30 per cent higher than a year ago.

The troublesome Paris chain of six depots has been chopped after losses of £300,000. The Dutch business is doing well and about 30 more depots are likely to be added.

Kwik-Fit has about 12 per cent of the British tyre replacement market and 25 per cent of the exhaust replacement market and, despite experimenting with transmission and clutch centres, still views these areas as mainstream businesses. A sizeable acquisition seems likely.

The shares, which have been under pressure, held at about 41p yesterday. Phillips & Drew is looking towards £5 million for the current year.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

British Aerospace shares take 15p dive

By Derek Pain and Jeremy Warner

Shares of British Aerospace dived 15p to 403p yesterday as institutional selling ahead of the Government's share sale intensified. They started the account at 430p.

Today institutional investors are due to attend a BAE briefing at the company's Dunsford Aerodrome, near Guildford, Surrey. Shareholders meet next week to approve the rights issue, element of the exercise.

With the Government selling its 48.4 per cent stake and BAE itself raising about £200 million

through the rights issue, the group's share price is now crucial as the final calculations take place about the level at which the shares should be sold.

BAE has indicated that it hopes to undertake the sale exercise, which is expected to have a valuation of about £500 million, early next month. There were signs yesterday that some institutional shareholders had decided the BAE price is too high. Institutions have been promised a large percentage of the Government's

shares and it was suggested that some were now selling to pull in the cash to take up their controlling entitlement.

It would pay the institutions - and indeed other shareholders - to see the BAE share price down, thereby reducing the price at which the Government can sell.

For the second day in succession equities were in a ragged retreat. With sterling losing ground against the dollar, the change of lower interest rates has retreated still further into the distance.

The pending Imperial Chemical Industries first quarter figures also prompted caution, and the end of certain jobbing financial years was another inhibiting factor.

USM dealings are due to start on Monday in the shares of the Moorgate Group, a financial marketing organization started in 1977. Le Mare, Martin and Company, the broker, is placing 1,250 million shares at 120p each. Profits are forecast at £430,000, putting the shares on 23 times prospective earnings.

At the close the FT 30 share index lost 10 points at 1,284.9 points.

Talk of a £100 million plus rights issue accompanying full-year figures tomorrow from Blue Circle knocked 5p off the company's share price to 476p. Unusually, a lunch has been organized for analysts to discuss the figures and this has only served to heighten the market's fears.

The company said at the beginning of this month when it bought Atlantic Cement in the United States that it had no plans for a rights issue and did not feel uncomfortable with its 47 per cent gearing level.

If the company has changed its mind since then, it will at least have the support of Mr Angus Phauze of Fielding Newton Smith, the City's top construction analyst.

He is bullish about the long-term future and says that Blue Circle has funded a huge investment programme over the last 10 years without asking shareholders for a penny so far.

BAT Industries staged a late rally to close 4p up on the day at 330p, ahead of publication on Friday of the tobacco group's report and accounts. There were suggestions that those who had received early copies liked the look of what they saw.

The cleaning group, Pritchard Services, took a 5p dip to 91p on the sudden departure of its North American supremo, Mr Peter Fox. The US business contributes 62 per cent of group turnover and 44 per cent of operating profits.

The Pritchard finance director, Mr Rod O'Donoghue said that Mr Fox, who had been running the operation for 18 months, had left "to follow his own interests".

So is Mr Fox leaving to set up in opposition to Pritchard? "Possibly. But that is his affair. It does not worry us. While being responsible for the United States the total board of Pritchard has participated in all the decisions and the strategy will continue in exactly the same way", Mr O'Donoghue said.

He said that Mr Fox would not be receiving any compensation. His job had gone to Mr Curtis Roberts who had been with the group for 12 years and has been involved in the US and Canadian interests.

The Pritchard chairman, Mr Peter Pritchard, said this month that returns were still too low in North America, although it offered considerable growth prospects.

The group would not comment yesterday on reports that there had been a dispute between the chairman and Mr Fox, although it admitted his

departure had not come as a "complete surprise".

Some Equities enjoyed occasional surges, usually on bid speculation. Rowntree Macintosh, the sweets group, was at one time 16p to the good at 421p. But the price elapsed to 415p. Consumer Union had another speculative session, closing 1p harder at 224p.

Thorn EMIL, strong recently on takeover thoughts, fell 12p to 422p after sinking to 414p.

Oils were an exceptionally weak market with the fall in the price of BP and Shell alone accounting for about 4 points of the 10-point fall in the FT-SE 100 share index.

Oil price fears and reports that Nigeria is breaching its

Croda International, the chemical group, is said to be involved in takeover talks with Burnet Oil emerging as the favorite to launch a bid. Some market men are dreaming of an offer at 180p a share. Croda shares yesterday slipped 3p to 142p.

daily production quota caused mark down across of a wide range of companies. BP closed 15p worse off at 533p and Britoil was 3p lower at 208p. Enterprise fell 5p to 195p. Last closed 7p lower at 306p and Ultramar softened 7p to 233p.

Royal Dutch Shell went against the trend rallying to close little changed at £46.76p after a presentation by the broker Wood Mackenzie to institutions in Edinburgh. Investors went away with the impression that there would be little growth in demand this year and that pressure on oil prices would continue. However, downstream activities were said to be in good shape.

Top auditors to merge in July

By Ian Griffiths

Three of Britain's oldest accountancy firms are to merge to form the fifteenth largest practice in the country. The national practices of Hodgson Harris and Chalmers Impey will link with the Liverpool firm Poulsons on July 1 and operate under the name of Hodgson Impey.

The new firm will have annual fee income of £15 million and service clients such as Ranks Hovis McDougall. It will have 84 partners and 750 staff at 22 locations in Britain and Ireland and through the Hodgson Landau Brands international firm it will have a presence in more than 50 countries.

Mr James Donovan, senior partner of Hodgson Harris, the biggest of the three firms, at the present placed nineteenth in the national accountancy league table and the instigator of the merger, said that the link had been prompted partly by the need of medium-sized firms to defend their traditional client base from the big eight accountancy firms.

Bank of Ireland

announces that with effect from close of business on 24th April 1985 its Base Rate for lending is reduced from 13½% to 12¾% per annum

Bank of Ireland

McKechnie Brothers

The improvement in the Group's performance continues with a 17% increase in profit before tax. The result would have been significantly better but for the adverse effects of weaknesses in the currencies of our overseas operations.

A slightly lower contribution from South Africa has been more than compensated by record figures from New Zealand. The UK continues to make steady progress.

Your Board wishes to see a better balance between Interim and Final Dividends and is therefore increasing the Interim for this purpose.

Dr. J. M. Butler, Chairman

Interim Results - unaudited	Half-year ended 31st January 1985	Half-year ended 31st January 1984	Year ended 31st July 1984 Audited
Turnover	£600	£700	£700
Operating Profit	173,058	87,178	202,834
Share of Profits of Associates	2,851	6,018	13,008
Net Profit	1,860	2,101	3,996
Extraordinary Items	4,243	4,251	10,471
Ordinary Dividend	(11)	96	(5,702)
Earnings per Ordinary Share	1,869	1,203	4,290
	7.9p	7.1p	17.3p

Note - Interim dividend of 2.50p (1984 2.00p) per Ordinary Share making a gross equivalent of 3.57143p (1984 2.97143p).

McKechnie Brothers plc ALDRIDGE, WALSALL WB8 8DS

Traded option highlights

Royal Electronics was the most actively traded counter on the London Traded Option Market yesterday. It attracted 873 bargains - 305 calls and 568 puts. Commercial Union was yet again an eagerly sought option with a total of 844 bargains worked against it. The gilts contract won 644 deals. All told the market achieved 4,429 bargains - 4,296 calls and 2,133 puts.

UNILEVER N.V.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, in accordance with Article 29 of the Statutes, the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd MAY 1985, in THE SKINNERS' HALL, 8½ DOWGATE HILL, LONDON EC4, at 11am to receive a Report from the Committee with the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1984; to propose a Dividend; and to elect Members of the Committee.

By Article 27 of the Statutes the General Meeting is composed of holders, whether in person or by proxy or both together, of at least thirty shares, who, to be entitled to take part in the Meeting, must deposit their shares and, as may be necessary, their proxies at the Head Office of the Company in Istanbul or at any of the branches, or in London at Dunster House, 3rd floor, 37 Mincing Lane, EC3R 7DN, or in Paris at 7 rue Meyerbeer, 75009, at least ten days before the date fixed for the Meeting.

The Report of the Committee and the Accounts which will be presented to the General Meeting are available to the Shareholders at the Head Office in Istanbul and at the offices in London and Paris.

T. R. STEPHENS
24th April 1985 Secretary to the Committee

OTTOMAN BANK

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T. R. STEPHENS
24th April 1985 Secretary to the Committee

Which Society?

Amongst the Top Twenty has:
* The highest reserve ratio
* The lowest administrative costs
* No branch offices
* Offers to new and existing investors

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RATES VARIABLE TRUSTEES STATUS ASSETS OVER £200 MILLION MEMBER OF B.S.A.

UNILEVER N.V.
Rotterdam The Netherlands
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS
On Wednesday, 22nd May, 1985 at 10.30 a.m. in the "Kleine Zaal" of the "Concertgebouw de Doelen", entrance Kruisplein 30, Rotterdam

AGENDA

1. Consideration of the Annual Report for the 1984 financial year submitted by the Board of Directors.
2. Approval and adoption of the Annual Accounts and appropriation of the profit for the 1984 financial year.
3. Appointment of the members of the Board of Directors.
4. Appointment of Auditors.
5. "Designated" shareholders with Articles 18 and 19 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code shall have the right to request the Board of Directors to file a request with the court in respect of the issue of ordinary shares in the Company.
6. Resolutions for amendments of Article 18 of the Articles of Association.

This agenda, the Report and Accounts for 1984, together with the Report of the Auditors and the further documentation pertaining to the Agenda are available for inspection by shareholders and holders of certificates issued by UNILEVER N.V. at the offices of the Company in Rotterdam, at the offices of the Company in London, at the offices of the Company in Amsterdam, at the offices of the Company in Brussels, at the offices of the Company in Geneva, at the offices of the Company in Zurich, at the offices of the Company in Basel, at the offices of the Company in Bern, at the offices of the Company in Lucerne, at the offices of the Company in St. Gallen, at the offices of the Company in Schaffhausen, at the offices of the Company in Appenzel A.O., at the offices of the Company in Appenzel A.U., at the offices of the Company in Appenzel S.O., at the offices of the Company in Appenzel S.U., at the offices of the Company in Appenzel T.O., at the offices of the Company in Appenzel T.U., at 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**Match-play
is back
with merit
money**

Europe's leading money winner this season will be denied a £25,000 bonus if he refuses to compete in a match-play event.

Ar. Erpon (UK) Limited, a Japanese computer company, have instituted a £787,000 sponsorship for the next three years. Erpon will award a prize of merit with their match-play event.

The prize-money distribution for this year's order of merit is similar to that for last season, when Sperry are the sponsors, with £100,000 to be split among the leading 10 players and £25,000 going to the runner-up.

Erpon will not pay the money if a leading player refuses to commit himself to their match-play tournament. But for last season, when Sperry was the sponsor, £150,000 was awarded a contract for nation-wide television is likely to be signed, the revamped match-play event will be held in April 1987.

George O'Grady, the managing director of the PGA European Tour Enterprises, said: "We are delighted at match-play is returning to our calendar for the first time since 1979".

Erpon have pledged their support for the order of merit with a prize of £150,000 in 1986, rising to £175,000 in 1987, when the leader would receive £100,000.

Erpon are seeking a long-term commitment from golfers like the one that has been made by the

The Epson Grand Prix of Europe will be played early in 1986, with a

Budd ban by IAC

By Pat Butcher

The International Athletics' Club (IAC) has today added to the controversy surrounding the Zola Budd when they announced that they would not be inviting her to take part in their new world race series. The IAC fear a ban on Budd because of her association with the incident in the mile race at the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh in February, when Miss Budd was forced out of the national

David Bedford, the IAC president, said: "We didn't want to risk demonstrators taking the limelight away from the athletics". The rout of Miss Budd comes in the wake of the realization that she has spent only five weeks in England since last July and less time overall than she spent in South Africa.

Since Miss Budd is not due back in Britain until the road race series is over, the IAC announcement seems superfluous. But the club members are no strangers to controversy. Born out of an argument over athletes' expenses 25 years ago, the IAC, run by past and present internationalists, almost went

They won a place on the grandstand and their future as strong opposition to the official athletics administration was further assured yesterday when Gaymer's Cyder announced a £700,000 sponsorship for the next three years.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL
Kicks off 7.30 unless stated

European Cup
1st final round, second leg
Juventus (0) v Juventus (S) (7.0)
Athinaikos (0) v Liverpool (4) (6.0).....

European Cup Winners' Cup
1st final round, second leg

t Division
 in Villa v Watford
 v Nottingham Forest (7.45)
 chester City v Southend

d v Norwich
 v Sunderland
 end division
 d United v Shrewsbury
 d division
 n v Doncaster
 ing v Plymouth
 n division
 ford v Crewe
 sfield v Scunthorpe
 LEAGUE: Macclesfield v Altrincham.

REGIONAL LEAGUE Premier division: Church v Bedworth, Cheltenham v R S Hampton, King's Lynn v A L Leamington, Oxford v Newport, R A Palsford v Fisher. Second: Dover v Aylesbury.

NATIONAL LEAGUE First division: Southampton v County (7.0), Coventry v Manchester (7.0), Derby v WBA (7.0), Nottingham v Barnsley (7.0). Second division: Chester v Hull (7.0), Southport v Wigan, Wigan v Oldham, York v Preston.

WALL COMBINATION: Chelsea v ...

LEAGUE: Bangor v Distillery (5.45).
 SENIARY MATCH: Hemel Hempstead v
 League XI.
 IAN LEAGUE: First division: Chesham v
 rough.
 ON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier
 zed Collier Row v Danson, Edgworth v
 shan.
 EN LEAGUE: Premier division (5.30):
 on v Abingdon, Morris Motors v Thame;
 manne v Clarendon, Shroton v
 n. Wantage v Sharpness.
 RICHMOND COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier
 rc Cobham v Virginia Water (5.15).

SHR COUNTRIES LEAGUE: Brimingham v
 Gazon v Havahill, Newmarket v
 Red. Stowmarket v Soham, Thetford v
 ...
SHR COUNTRIES CHAMPIONSHIP:
 v Army (Tiverton FC, 6.30).
RUGBY UNION
MATCHES: Abertillery v Tredegar (7.0);
 ... d = Mueson (7.15); Osley v Rugby;
 ... Wales Police v Pontypool (7.0).
MERIT TABLE: Weston-super-Mare v
 ...
WALL MERIT TABLE: Paryn v St

RUGBY LEAGUE
1ST DIVISION: Carlisle v Salford;
 Wigan v Rochdale (7.45).

CRICKET
1ST: Cambridge University v Nottingham (1.30 to 6.30).
2ND: Oxford University v Glamorgan (7.0).

3RD: MCC v Essex (11.30 to 5.30).

OTHER SPORT
1: Queens' Club tournaments.

[REDACTED]

By Clive White

From David Miller, Bordeaux

Langan (left) and Daly: in fine form for Oxford and Birmingham respectively

an order for possession of it, and accordingly he had had jurisdiction to grant that declaration.

counsel: on the end of the summing up the jury were left to consider a charge which had not been the subject of argument or submissions in front of them. Their Lordships regarded that as an unsatisfactory state of affairs, and as an irregularity.

1

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Trade 01-278 9161/5

SECRETARY TO PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

We have a vacancy for a Secretary to work for our Personnel Director at our Harmondsworth office, opposite Heathrow Airport.

The successful applicant must have first class shorthand and typing skills, and Word Processing experience would be useful.

An excellent salary and remuneration package is offered for this challenging appointment.

Please forward details of previous experience and qualifications to:

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Duties cover a wide range of secretarial and administrative tasks.

Applicants should have 'O' levels to include English language with a minimum of four years secretarial experience, some at a senior level and a bi-lingual English/French secretarial qualification. Shorthand/Typing 100/50 wpm.

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Benefits: 22 days holiday per annum, season ticket loan, free private medical scheme, pension fund, flex-time.

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A top firm engaged in executive search seek a very socially confident PA/secretary to their vice-president. Lots of client contact, superb office. 100/55 skills needed.

MAYFAIR PROPERTY to £9,500

A very well-established firm of property developers seek a senior secretary to a very pleasant director. Lots of opportunity to develop a PA role and handle your own correspondence. 100/80 skills needed. Training given on the latest word processing.

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Join the MD of a number of London leisure organisations as his personal assistant. Organise promotional events involving famous celebrities and keep track of his other business interests. A good senior level background and a professional calm manner needed. 100/50 skills essential.

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A SPORTING LIFE £9,500

This client is responsible for gathering all sports' results and information to pass on to the TV, press and radio. He needs a bright senior secretary to a director. 100/60 skills needed.

CITY STOCKBROKERS £10,000

Join the senior partner of this large firm of stockbrokers as senior secretary. Excellent benefits include generous lunch allowance & bonus. Ideally you should have Bank Xerox WP experience or a good knowledge of at least two other machines. 100/60 skills needed.

NEW HEIGHTS £9,000

A leading City firm of architects seek a secretary to their senior partner. The company's atmosphere is exceptionally friendly and you'll enjoy a full PA role. Beautiful offices and a free lunch. 100/50 skills needed.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
23 College Hill London EC4 Telephone 01-236 3712

Confidential Secretary/PA £12,000

Also to be the Company secretary required by small Foreign controlled private financial services company. The person must be friendly, pleasant, flexible and efficient. A hard worker able to work with a minimum of supervision. Pleasant telephone manner. Able to deal with visitors including the Foreign Chairman and shareholders. Knowledge of company secretary duties, word processor, telex and a European language would be helpful but not of primary importance. Good English diction, must be fast and accurate typist. Shorthand essential. Position would suit career person.

Send CV and photograph if available to:-

M. MacBlain
Gold Credit
01-597

The leading heart research charity requires experienced Medical Secretary (with shorthand) for Consultant Medical Director and Medical PR spokesman. To be part of enthusiastic and friendly team.

Salary according to age and experience.

Excellent benefits.

Please apply in writing marked confidential enclosing full CV to:

Mrs S McNally
British Heart Foundation
102 Gloucester Place
London W1H 4DH

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT c£13,000 +

We are a friendly, privately owned, one branch agency, based in the heart of Mayfair. Due to expansion, we are seeking a recruitment consultant with agency experience. A professional, committed attitude is essential. Full in-house advertising and administration support. Excellent basic salary and commission, no targets.

Please phone in the first instance

ANDREA 01-429 7338
BARRETT PERSONNEL

All replies will be treated in the strictest confidence.

SHORTHAND SPEEDSTER! £9,000, review in July - Baker Street

This international company is looking for a secretary who combines a multiplicity of work skills and will enjoy both client contact and the stimulation of business-related issues. Fully a 6/6 moment!

Ring Louise Watson Tel. 01-493 5788

CONNECTIONS

13/14 Hanover Street, London W1H 4DH Tel: 01-493 5788

BI-LINGUAL TRAINEE

Confidential Organisation

£8,500 WC1

Confidential Organisation has immediate need for a young, energetic, and motivated person to work as a trainee in a fast-paced, multi-national environment. The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative tasks, including typing, shorthand, and word processing. The role offers excellent training and career development opportunities. The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative tasks, including typing, shorthand, and word processing. The role offers excellent training and career development opportunities.

At least one of following languages spoken: French / German / Italian / Spanish. Must be available to travel abroad occasionally.

ENG/SPANISH/FRENCH

Admission/Assessment

£7,500 SEC1

At least one of following languages spoken: French / German / Italian / Spanish. Must be available to travel abroad occasionally.

GERMAN SEC/RECEPTIONIST £7,000 EC2

At least one of following languages spoken: French / German / Italian / Spanish. Must be available to travel abroad occasionally.

PORTUGUESE SEC £9,000 EC2

At least one of following languages spoken: French / German / Italian / Spanish. Must be available to travel abroad occasionally.

THE LANGUAGE SPECIALISTS

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Sales Secretary

We require a Secretary for 3 Managers in the Business Development Group of Wimpey Offshore Engineers and Constructors Ltd, a major engineering contractor to the offshore oil and gas industry, based in modern offices at Brentford.

This challenging position involves the full range of secretarial duties including correspondence, telephone work, travel/hotel arrangements, diary-keeping and general administration. You will also be responsible for maintaining the sales record/reporting database and producing monthly reports using a microcomputer, for which training will be given.

We are looking for a well-organised, lively, presentable person aged around 25, with at least 2 years' experience of working for senior management, preferably in a sales environment. Educated to 'O' level standard, you will have a high standard in audio or shorthand with excellent typing skills, and will be willing to become fully involved in the running of this very active department.

A good salary for this level of position and benefits associated with a large company are offered.

If you are interested, please write with cv to:

Miss M. Turner,
Personnel Department,
Wimpey Offshore
Engineers and
Constructors Ltd,
Great West Road,
Brentford,
Middlesex TW8 9AR.



BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT FOR SENIOR PARTNER OF AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LAW FIRM

We are seeking a person with sound business administration experience to work with our very busy senior Partner who is involved in a broad range of international legal & business matters. In addition to a good grasp of basic book keeping, and a "clean desk" mentality, applicants must have first-class organisational talents, a sense of humour and the ability to work under pressure. In return the position will offer consistent variety, opportunities for participation in small business developments and personal satisfaction together with a competitive salary and yearly bonus. Our office has advanced word processing and computer equipment and is attractively situated in Aldwych, WC2. Please send details to:- Christine Fox, Gossman Jones and Partners, Aldwych House, Aldwych, London WC2B 4HL. Telephone 01 242 8553.

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP!

If you feel you need a fresh look at the market before committing yourself to a permanent job, why not get paid for it as well? Join London's most exclusive temporary team. Ring Della Vassen.

13/14 Hanover Street,
London W1H 4DH
Tel 01-493 5788

PRESTIGIOUS WEST END ESTATE AGENTS

Have an immediate secretarial vacancy offering responsibility and variety in the office of their senior partner. Age 25+, the right candidate should have 1st class shorthand and typing skills, salary in excess of £10,000 per annum. Please send details to:- Christine Fox, Gossman Jones and Partners, Aldwych House, Aldwych, London WC2B 4HL. Telephone 01 242 8553.

Please telephone
01 629 9292 ext 2450
(No Agencies)

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Ultramar

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

Experienced secretary required for Director of City based British oil company.

Skills to include typing (80 wpm) and shorthand (100 wpm). Experience of word processing useful. Certain administrative tasks will be included in the job specification, therefore "A" levels preferred and numeracy is essential. Age 25-30.

Salary negotiable. Generous LV allowance and benefits.

Please apply by sending your full CV to:



Miss V. Pain
Personnel Officer
Ultramar Golden Eagle Limited
Pembroke House, 40 City Road
London, EC1Y 2AQ

No agencies please

T.V. FILM PRODUCTION c£8,500

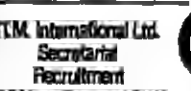
Excitement? Yes! But you'll need to be organised and efficient with excellent skills (SH 100 typing 65). An advertising background would be useful. Age 20-26.

COSMETICS ADVERTISING c£8,000

Some experience needed here as you'll be working in a fast-moving creative environment on an extremely prestigious cosmetics account. (SH 80 typing 60). A superb opportunity. Age 20-26.

ADVERTISING c£8,500

Secretary P.A. to creative director of this highly successful young agency. You are between 20-26, well-presented and confident with excellent skills. The office is absolutely stunning!



Individual career
advice for
secretaries and
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TM International Ltd.
Secretarial
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50 Hans Crescent SW1

01-594 9233
01-594 9231

AN INVITATION

For Secretaries who know their value and want the very best for themselves....

We invite you to join the Consultants at Kingsway to Judge for yourselves why more and more Tempers are working for us.

BUCKS FIZZ & CANAPES

on 30th April, 1985

5.30 pm - 8.00 pm

We Test Your Skills - Why Not Test Ours



No. 1 Kingsway, WC2
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CHRISTINE WATSON LTD.

124 Wigmore Street, London W1

Salary c£11,500

Two clients have asked me to find 2 top flight PAs/Secs 26+ with excellent skills and presentation and a financial background. Both positions are based within W1 and require senior secretaries who have previously worked at Director level. The ability to work on your own initiative is essential. Excellent perks.

Telephone: 01-935 8235

PA/OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Career opening for a motivated, self-motivated and experienced administrator, prepared to become totally involved in helping to run this busy and successful consultancy.

Duties would include the usual PA and secretarial functions of a busy office, including lesson work, client contact and office administration.

The successful applicant will have excellent English, good secretarial skills and the initiative to work largely unsupervised. Word processing and simple bookkeeping skills an advantage. Preferred age 25-35. No smoking.

Salary negotiable.

Please write with CV to David Morgan, David Morgan Associates, 10 Broadland Close, 20-22 Highgate High Street, London N6 6JF.



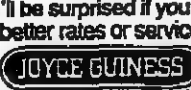
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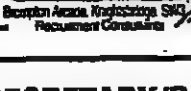
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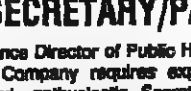
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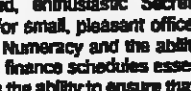
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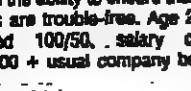
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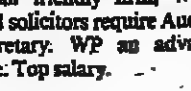
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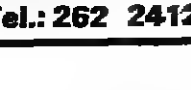
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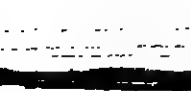
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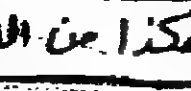
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ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART

The College wishes to appoint

SENIOR SECRETARIES

to fill these positions:

1. The Pro-Rector's Office

2. Personal Assistant to the Registrar

3. Deputy Registrar

4. Central Academic Services

5. Department of Architecture

These are important posts requiring experienced staff who enjoy dealing with people, with excellent shorthand and secretarial skills including word processing. Salaries on incremental scales, negotiable according to experience and abilities, plus London Weighting of £1

SUPER SECRETARIES

01-837 0668

RECEPTIONIST

International Office Services company located on Piccadilly, 3 minutes from Green Park, seeks young well presented receptionist/telex operator with typing/wp. Fluently written and spoken French desirable. Flexibility regarding working hours is essential in view of international communications requirements. Salary according to capabilities. Starting date 1st June. Write with CV, telephone number and passport photo to

BOX 2518R THE TIMES

PERSONAL SECRETARY

Bright and capable secretary, aged 18-20, with good shorthand and typing required for small business office in the House of Parliament. Applicant should be willing to undertake word processing training. Starting salary £3,500 with good holidays. Start and May. Interview in early May. Apply in writing to the Secretary.

Consultancy Secretary

Association (UK Branch), Westminster Hall, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.

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Fax 01-837 0668

Telex 01-837 0668

Cable 01-837 0668

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SECRETARY - £7,500pa

We are a small technical personnel consultancy and require an easy-going, efficient person with a pleasant telephone manner who is able to work on his/her own initiative. If you enjoy a challenge and would like to be part of our friendly team why not call:

Day: 01 930 0306 Eve: 01 289 5211

or write enclosing CV to:

C T S ENGINEERING LIMITED

46-47 Pall Mall, London SW1

SHORTHAND SECRETARY

NEW MALDEN/SW LONDON

COMMUNIS ENGINE COMPANY

Excellent shorthand Secretary/Administrator required for small fast-paced Marketing Department.

We need someone with superb shorthand skills, flexible attitudes, an interest in new technology, an ability to work hard and a willingness to become involved in our business.

The successful candidate will be required to spend approximately 15-20 days away from home on a regular basis, working with promotions and trade shows.

Please telephone Margaret Hoggins on

01-449 6171

for further details

or write to Margaret Hoggins

at the above address

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SECRETARY/PA

We are a small team of 2 persons with too much work and we urgently need a third member as our office (located near Harrods) is very hectic dealing with sales of medical equipment mainly to Middle East territories.

The full range of secretarial skills is required (steno/typo) plus preferably some knowledge of Arabic. As there will be regular contact with customers and with our factories in Sweden, a clear speaking voice is essential.

For applicants prepared to learn about the products and their application, a starting salary of between £8,000-£9,500 plus would be offered according to age and experience.

Tel: 01-581 8848

or write to Margaret Hoggins

at the above address

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Marketing

£8,500 neg.

21-30 years

A bright, bubbly, hard-working secretary is required for a go-ahead young Executive Director who has just moved across to join the American marketing team in this substantial bank. A lively environment with plenty of contact, trips to organise and liaisons to plan plus liaison at a senior level. Skills 90/50. Benefits include mortgage subsidy.

01-499 3551 or 3531

MacBlain

Recruitment Consultants

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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC 1

6.00 **Cee-fax AM**.
6.50 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Mike Smith. News at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25, 8.55 and 9.15. Regional news, weather and travel at 8.57, 9.27, 9.57 and 10.27; world news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 7.20, 7.45 and 8.45; and the new **Top Twenty** at 7.32; a review of the morning newspapers at 8.37. Plus 4-4 hints and financial advice.

9.20 **Cee-fax**. 10.30 **Play School**.
10.50 **Gharber**. This week's edition of the magazine programme for Asian women includes Ghazala Armin and Sawarman Talwar talking to Fanda Isakoff of the Asian Women's Association, Nuneaton. 11.15 **Cee-fax**.
12.30 **News After Noon** with Frances Condon and Michael Cole. The weather programme comes from Ian McCaskill. 12.57 **Regional News** (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles.

1.00 **Pebble Mill at One** includes Michael Smith's **Cher's Special** slot in which the guest is actor-turned-chef, John Tovey. Englebert Hummelink sings a song. 1.45 **Mr Bern** (1.2.20). **Cee-fax**. 3.53 **Regional News** (not London).
3.55 **Lay on Five** presented by Roeline Barnein with pupils of St Nicholas Infants School, Bristol. 4.10 **The Wombles** (4.1.15). **The Blackbirds**. Cartoon.
4.35 **Take Two**, presented by Josephine Buchan. **EastEnders** in the week and in the studio is the serial's producer, Julie Smith. 5.00 **John Craven's Newsround**.
5.10 **Duncan Dares**. A new series in which the intrepid Peter Duncan attempts any number of dangerous feats, this afternoon in the guise of a Special Agent (see Choice).

5.35 **Gloria**. The first of a new series starring Sally Struthers as the well-meaning but accident-prone Gloria Bunker. 6.00 **News** with Nicholas Witchell and Jeremy Paxman. Weather.
6.30 **London Plus**.
7.00 **Wogan**. Tonight's guests include Howard Jones, Gerry Cottle, Ted Edwards and Barry Tucker.
7.40 **Monkey Business**. Natural history quiz, the last in the series, presented by Henry Kelly. The team consists of Peter, Benjamin and Jeremy Charles, are joined by Liz Goddard, Pam Ayres, Michael Clegg and Cliff Morgan.
8.10 **Dailies**. As Pam despairs at the thought of being unable to trust anyone, help arrives from an unexpected source (see Choice).
8.30 **News** with John Humphrys. Weather.

8.55 **Operation Otter**. The story of an experiment to increase the population of one of Britain's endangered species - the otter. The idea was to breed otters in captivity and then let them loose in the wild and hope that natural breeding would occur. The first three were released with the male being fitted with a radio transmitter in order to keep tabs on its activity. After three days the radio contact was lost and the conservation team, including actress Nerys Hughes, went hunting for the missing trio.
9.00 **Sparetime** introduced by Harry Carpenter. A semi-final of the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship. John Motson assesses England's chances of reaching the World Cup football finals; and Pat Murphy ponders the prospects of Graham Gooch returning to the England cricket team after his three years in the wilderness.

10.00 **News at Ten** includes a report on the 'flea in today's' Cambodia with that under the genocidal regime of Pol Pot.
10.30 **Midweek Sport Special**, introduced by Brian Moore and Steve Rider. Highlights of the European club competition games involving Everton and Liverpool; plus coverage of the British middleweight title fight between Jimmy Price and Heriot Graham.
12.00 **Superstar Profile**. Film director John Huston (1).
12.25 **Night Thoughts**.

TV-am

6.15 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Nick Owen and Jayne Irving. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.50 and 8.15; Popeye cartoon at 7.25; pop music at 7.54; video report at 8.45; and gardening advice at 8.55. The guest is Anita Harris.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **Thames news headlines**. 9.30 **For School**. Religious education. 9.47 **Portugal** and the Portuguese way of life. 10.04 **Sex education** and human relationships. 10.21 **A documentary** about sex equality. 10.48 **The Lizard and Land's End**. 11.10 **The countryside** in spring and summer. 11.22 **Music and movement**. 11.40 **Exploring the past** in Everton, Liverpool. 11.55 **Rub a Dub Dub**. An up-dated version of the nursery rhyme. **Baa Baa Black Sheep**. 12.10 **Our Backyard** (1). 12.30 **Raw Energy**. Leslie and Susan Kenton prepare some dish salads with unusual dips and seed cheeses.

1.00 **News at One** includes an interview with the Aga Khan. Weather. 1.20 **Thames news**.
1.30 **A Country Practice**. Medical drama series set in an Australian outback town. 2.30 **On the Market**. Susan Brooks and Trevor Hyatt with the week's best food bargains. The guest cook is Derek Waring. 3.00 **Dear Maud**. More dramas from the Covent Garden fashion workshop. 3.25 **Thames news headlines**. 3.30 **Sons and Daughters**.
4.00 **Bottom Moon**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 **Bottom Moon**. **Adventure** of a group of creatures who live underneath a lighthouse. 4.50 **Razzamatazz**. Pop music show. 5.15 **Blackbeaters**.

5.45 **News**. 6.00 **Thames news**.
6.25 **Help! John Murray** with information about single payments available to people on Supplementary Benefit for items like essential furniture, bedding and household equipment.
6.35 **Crossroads**. Barbara faces the unpleasant facts.
7.00 **Arthur C. Clarke's World of Strange Powers**. The series continues with a look at those of Christ's on the cross - a miracle or is there a more prosaic explanation of the mystery? (Oracles).
7.30 **Coronation Street**. Will Brian and Gill be reunited? Will they find her harder to help (Oracles).
8.00 **This is Your Life**. Eamonn Andrews, armed with his mike and big red book springs a surprise on another unsuspecting worthy.

8.30 **The Morecambe and Wise Show**. More hilarious sketches from the two funny men (1). (Oracles).
9.00 **Wildcat**. Part four of Harry and his rare street cat. What the woman do not know what he is going to do next. Meanwhile, George Resnick persuades Jo, a young crossing sweeper, to show her the secrets of the late Captain Henderson. Starling Diana Ring and Derholm Eddi (Oracles).
10.00 **News at Ten** includes a report on the 'flea in today's' Cambodia with that under the genocidal regime of Pol Pot.
10.30 **Midweek Sport Special**, introduced by Brian Moore and Steve Rider. Highlights of the European club competition games involving Everton and Liverpool; plus coverage of the British middleweight title fight between Jimmy Price and Heriot Graham.
12.00 **Superstar Profile**. Film director John Huston (1).
12.25 **Night Thoughts**.

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UNIDENTIFIABLY CONDUCT? (BBC2, 9.55pm) would have given Jane Austen a bit of the vapours. And, unless she is prepared to lose a night's sleep, Barbara Cartland ought not to watch it. The Welsh Rugby Union can tune in with impunity because they will not see anything. They simply do not recognize the existence of the women whose activities are detailed in the film. The village of Magor, in South Wales, has two pubs and a church. It also has a Rugby club; men only, of course. And while its members prop up the bar, they reflect with varying degrees of resignation on one of life's little peculiarities: the 15 local women who make up the village's alternative Rugby team ("Who wants to see a woman coming home with cauliflower ears?" "Why spoil the sport?" "As long as they can whip the English. I don't really care." And so on). What they lack in official visibility, the women's XV make up for in volubility. Their remarks may not understand what it is they are trying to prove, but the women know all right. For one thing, they are challenging the male monopoly in pushing, shoving and tumbling about in the mud. For another, they are getting rid of their domestic aggression: taking it out on the opposition instead of the children. And although they may find it easier to convert a try than to convert the local men to their point of view, there cannot be a male forward in Magor who does not secretly envy these very forward women the ease with which they dispatch their bears in a swigging contest.

BBC 2

6.30 **Open University: Combined Heat and Power**. 6.55 **Contrasts in Musical Language**. Ends at 7.20.
9.00 **Cee-fax**.
9.15 **World Snooker**. The opening seven frames of the first best-of-31 semi-final of the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship, presented by David Vine, plus highlights of how the players reached this stage. The commentators are Ted Lowe, Jack Kameh and Clive Everton.
9.25 **News summary** with subtitles. Weather.
9.30 **Film: Carson City** (1932). Starring Randolph Scott, Raymond Massey and Lucille Norman. Western adventure about the building of a railroad, over difficult mountainous terrain, from gold mines to Carson City. The citizens are against the project as is the villainous mine-owner and gold robber "Big Jack" Davis, but desiring Jeff Kincaid and the lovely Susan Mitchell are determined to see the completion of the venture. Directed by André de Toth.
9.55 **World Snooker**. David Vine introduces highlights of the first semi-final and previews the second which begins later this evening.

7.40 **Ebony**, presented by Juliet Alexander and Vince Herbert. There are items on Michael Jackson who died while detained in Broadmoor and whose death raises a question about the treatment of black people in mental hospitals; on schoolteacher Ray Costello who traced his roots back to Bermuda; and two numbers from the Gail Thompson Approach, a five-plate group led by Ian-Stephen, Gail Thompson.
8.10 **World Snooker**. Coverage of the opening frames of the second semi-final of the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship, introduced by David Vine from the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield.

9.00 **Shakespeare's Comedy**. Episode three of the eight-part adaptation of Charles Dickens's novel introduces Charlie Davis in one of his rare street roles - that of Smalldew, an unlikely and unloved moneylender. Meanwhile, Lady Dedlock persuades Jo, a young crossing sweeper, to show her the secrets of the late Captain Henderson. Starling Diana Ring and Derholm Eddi (Oracles).
9.55 **Open Space: Unidentifiably Conduct?** A documentary about the six-year-old women's rugby team from the small Welsh village of Magor, near Newport. The man and women of the village discuss their differing views on a women's place (see Choice).
10.25 **Newsnight**.
11.30 **Weather**. 11.35 **Interval**.
11.50 **Open University: Health and Disease: Dirty Old Town?** 11.55 **Biography: Power Plants of the Cell**. Ends at 12.25.

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12.00 **Superstar Profile**. Film director John Huston (1).
12.25 **Night Thoughts**.

CHANNEL 4

2.30 **Channel Four Racing** from Epsom. Introduced by Hugh Scott. Coverage of four races - the Great Metropolitan Stakes (2.35); the Rascals Stakes (3.35); the Rascals Stakes (3.35); and the Rascals Stakes (4.10).
4.30 **Isaura the Slave Girl**. Episode eight of the 30-part Brazilian made soap opera and Tobias makes it plain to Isaura that he is not welcome in his house. Followed by **Fantastico**, the sights and sounds of modern-day Brazil.
5.30 **Farming on 4**. This week's edition of the farming magazine programme includes a visit to young farmers from west Wales who have rejected the conventional chemical approach to agriculture in favour of organic farming which, they believe, is environmentally sound, less damaging, creates more jobs and provides a quality of food that is in ever-increasing demand.
6.00 **Ever Thought of Sport?** The third programme in the series designed to encourage young people to try a variety of adventure sports examines underwater diving.
6.30 **The Making of a Climbing Series**. Everest conqueror, Chris Bonington, previews a new series beginning on this channel on Saturday. Bonington is seen scaling, in the mist and rain, Scafell in the Lake District.
7.00 **Channel Four News** includes a report on the British computer industry, ICL, who today announced details of its new, large computer and its future software strategy.
7.50 **Comment**. The political slot this week is taken by Simon Hughes, the Liberal MP for Southwark and Bermondsey. Weather.

8.00 **How Wars End**. In part three of his series, historian A. J. P. Taylor discusses the First World War and the Armistice.
8.30 **Diverse Reports**. Christopher Hird examines the changes that are planned in the way the City of London operates.
9.00 **Dance on Four**. Natalia Makharova in 'A Class of her Own'. A profile of the celebrated prima ballerina as she takes two ballet classes at the Royal Opera House dance studio. With Roland Petit and Irina Yatschenko.
10.00 **Law Grant**. The series begins with Lou taking up the new job of city clerk with the Los Angeles Tribune (shown previously on ITV).
11.00 **Violence: British Film's Last Year Two**. A film, a drama and a documentary, the first written by Alan Drury, the second directed by Marc Karim.
11.25 **Book Four**. Peter Adcock, Adam Mars-Jones and Jill Neville, with presenter, Harriet Lee, discuss a selection of the latest paperback and hardback titles.
12.15 **Closedown**.

9.00 **Shakespeare's Comedy**. Episode three of the eight-part adaptation of Charles Dickens's novel introduces Charlie Davis in one of his rare street roles - that of Smalldew, an unlikely and unloved moneylender. Meanwhile, Lady Dedlock persuades Jo, a young crossing sweeper, to show her the secrets of the late Captain Henderson. Starling Diana Ring and Derholm Eddi (Oracles).
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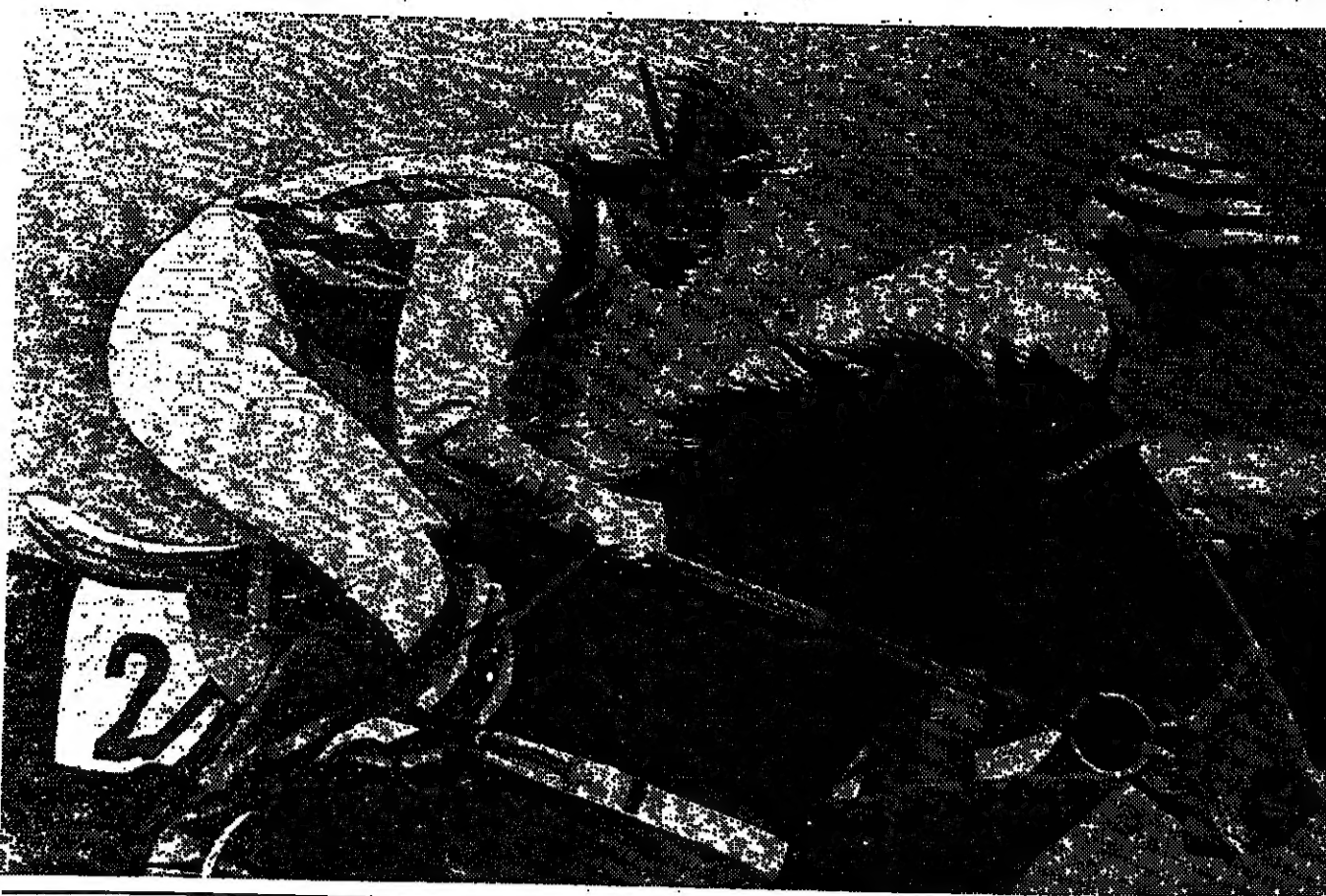
CHOICE

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DUNCAN DARES (BBC1)

5.10pm reveals a side of Peter Duncan, the former *Blue Peter* presenter and one of the most cheerful-looking men imaginable, that we had not suspected. He appears to be hell-bent on self-destruction. In tonight's film, the first of six in which he puts his life in jeopardy, he plunges off a high roof, tackles a couple of thugs, overturns a speeding car and, blowing like a *pommes frites*, leaps into a chilly Thames. In the process, he disproves the theory that stuntmen are born and not made.
6.30 **After Henry**. Comedy series starring Michael Caine, Joan Sanderson, and Gerry Cowper (2).
7.00 **News**.
7.25 **The Archers**.
7.30 **Checkpoint**. Roger Cook returns with a six-week run of his award-winning investigation programme.
7.45 **Groundswell** (new series). Environment matters, presented by Hugh Sykes. Tonight: Acid rain, public inquiries, and an environmental film festival.
8.15 **Business**. Peter Hodge reports on garden centres - attractive business or risky venture...?
8.45 **Between Earth and Sky**. Last of three reflections on rural life in Victorian England, by Neil Philip.
9.30 **Where Death Desires**. Modern-day forensic medicine. With Dr David Whitaker, forensic dentist.
9.45 **Kaleidoscope**. Arts magazine. Comment on As You Like It, at the RSC Stratford-upon-Avon.
10.15 **A Book at Sea**. "A Movable Feast" by Ernest Hemingway. Abridged in eight parts. (2) Scott Fitzgerald. Reader: David Buck. 10.25 **Weather**.
10.30 **The World Tonight**, including 11.00 Headlines.
11.15 **The Financial World Tonight**.
11.30 **Today in Parliament**.
12.00 **News**.
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Racing Princess takes flat debut in her stride



Labour MP linked with Russians

Continued from page 1

was the WPC which mounted the worldwide campaign to stop the United States making the neutron warhead.

On that issue the WPC's worldwide ability to inspire instant demonstrations in different parts of the world had to be admitted, he said.

The growing influence of the British Peace Assembly was reflected by the fact that 18 trade unions and the Scottish TUC were understood to have affiliated to it.

Lord Orr-Ewing went on to attack the National Union of Mineworkers for sending members to the international department of the Higher Schools of Trade Unions in Moscow as well as the attendance of Mr Scargill now the miner's leader. Mr Scargill was also believed to have arranged for selected people to attend courses in Cuba.

Owen outwits Labour in Commons skirmish

Continued from page 1

adjourn the sitting for what he called a cooling-off period.

He then held peace talks with representatives from the Government, Labour, SDP and Commons staff, at which the SDP whip, Mr John Cartwright, found himself holding the initiative.

Mr Michael Cocks, Labour's chief whip, promised to persuade his people to give back Dr Owen's seat if he would abandon his claim to the dispatch box. But Mr Cartwright, pressing his advantage, wanted conditions.

He insisted that it was time for the Commons procedure committee to look at the whole question of the position of the Alliance parties, now with 24 MPs, and their claim for an enhanced role in a House where the procedures are ill adapted to the presence of a third party.

The Government's representative, Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons, who was neutral between the rival

Opposition parties, agreed to an enquiry.

The findings of the committee, which the two main parties naturally dominate, may bring the Alliance little comfort. But its proceedings will focus attention on their firm convictions that present arrangements are unfair.

When Dr Owen's speech began, he criticized the government for failing to make postal ballots, independently supervised, the norm in elections for trade union officers, surfs ballots and the forthcoming ballots for political funds.

His views were rejected by Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, but several Conservatives nodded in approval. At the end of the debate, three Tories, Mr Reginald Prentice (Dumfries), Mr Conal Gregory (York), and Mr Edward Leigh (Gainsborough and Horncastle), voted with the SPD.

Parliament, page 4

By Alan Hamilton

It was not the horse's fault, Princess Anne declared gallantly; it would probably have gone faster with somebody else on board.

But her key call Against the grain went faster than the twelve behind to give the Princess a creditable fourth place in her flat racing debut over the Derby course at Epsom yesterday.

The Princess, who is more used to the rigours of three-day eventing, said that the 1.5 mile

Photographs by Ian Stewart, Chris Cole, Julian Herbert

race, covered in a shade over two minutes 50secs, was over too quickly for her to feel any fear.

By Tattenham corner, the Princess, in distinctive Royal blue and red stripes, was holding on to sixth place and going well. In the home straight she coaxed a final spurt out of her mount of finish well up with the first three.

The race, which raised well over £20,000 for Riding for the Disabled, was won by the favourite No-U-Turn, ridden by Mrs Elaine Mellor.



The princess celebrates after the race by accepting a memento from Lester Piggott

Letter from Ahmedabad Berserk police add to caste violence

Twelve bodies were brought yesterday to the civil hospital in Ahmedabad, said to be the biggest hospital in Asia, but there are many claimants to the title. Seven people had been burnt to death, three had been stabbed, two died of gunshot.

This was the overnight toll in the bloody outbreak of civil strife which has turned the streets of the city into curfew-bound desolation, littered with burnt-out trucks, buses and jeeps and set one citizen against another.

Last night Bupnagar was still burning. It is an outer suburban slum, filled with low shanties and one-storey blocks of municipal housing, with occasional blocks of multi-storey flats, known generally as a "labour" area.

The smoke rose from a series of newish tenements - Bupnagar is an expanding area - where flames licked round deserted doorways. Charred curtains swung in the breeze, bonfires of furniture, which principally meant those string cots called *chappals* on which the vast majority of Indians sleep, smouldered. In the empty rooms tin trays and eating dishes hung on blackened walls.

This was Nicol Road, an area where there are a few rows of Muslim houses amongst some acres of Hindu. At 6am yesterday the gangs of riot-infamed Hindus arrived to burn them out.

The Muslims had nothing to do with the agitation in Gujarat state, of which Ahmedabad is the largest city. The agitation is to do with the favoured status in getting university places and government jobs which is being given to the lower castes at the expense of the higher ones.

Two months ago the higher castes revolted and began a campaign of increasing violence against the state government which promised to introduce 18 per cent more reserved places. The proposal has not been acted upon. The state government says it will not be acted upon until there has been a full inquiry into the subject, but the higher castes have taken no notice and have carried on rioting, now against the whole system of reserved

Michael Hamlyn

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Anne attends the Northern Heritage Trust's reception at Blagdon, Easton Burn, Newcastle upon Tyne, 5.35; and later, as Patron, the National Union of Townswomen's Guilds, attends the Newcastle upon Tyne Civic Centre, 7.30.

The Duke of Gloucester visits the Area Careers Office, Belfast House, Brunswick Square, Gloucester, 11.15; "Prospect Workshops", 12.05; and Gloucestershire Adult Training Centre, 12.25; later he visits Rickenham County Junior School, Newent, 2.15.

New Exhibition
Instantaneous Views of New York, photographs by Pogue Caesar, E M Flint Gallery, Walsall Museum and

Art Gallery, Central Library, Lichfield St, Walsall; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 4.45 (ends May 14).

Exhibitions in progress

Prints by Monet, Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, Queens Rd, Bristol; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends April 27).

Sculpture and drawings by John Davies; Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, University of East Anglia, Norwich; Tues to Sun 12 to 5 (ends June 2).

Shorelines: three artists from Orkney; Collins Gallery, Strathclyde University, 22 Richmond St, Glasgow; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 12 to 4 (ends April 30).

Art by architect, Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum, 40 Albert Place, Stirling; Wed to Sun 2 to 5 (ends May 12).

Recent paintings by Donald McIntyre; Phoenix Gallery, Lavenham, Suffolk; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30.

Sat 10 to 6, Sun 2 to 6 (ends April 30).

Last chance to see

Canadian Holography Now; Arscapex Gallery, 21 Castle St, Aberdeen, 10 to 5.30.

Music
Concert to the Holburne Group; The Downs School, Malvern, Worcester, 7.30.

Organ recital by Thomas Trotter; Birmingham Town Hall, 7.30.

Concert by the Northern Sinfonia; Newcastle City Hall, 7.45.

Recital by Heather Corbett (percussion), James Durand (viola) and David Davies (flute); Studio Theatre, Third Eye Centre, 330 Sauchiehall St, Glasgow, 7.30.

Concert by the Quanz Ensemble; St Mary's Church, Clifton upon Dunsmuir, Warwick, 7.30.

Recital by Raymond Burley and John Mills (guitar duo); Bampton Arts Centre, Town Hall, Oxford, 7.30.

Concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra; Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, 7.30.

Talks, lectures
Sculpture and drawings of John Davies, by Prof Norbert Lynton; Lecture Theatre 1, University of East Anglia, Norwich, 7.30.

Photographic document in the Czechoslovak context, by Pavel Buchler; John Hansard Gallery, The University, Southampton, 8.

General
Book Fair; Fisher Hall, Cambridge, 10 to 5.

Antiques Fair; The Showground, Ardingly, Nr. Haywards Heath, W Sussex, 7.30am to 4.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on White Paper on financial services in the United Kingdom.

Lords (2.30): Debate on housing, on chemical weapons, and on cultural heritage.

Best wines

In a blind tasting of 47 Cabernets from the southern hemisphere, 12 were chosen as offering excellent value.

1981 Cabernet Sauvignon, Brown Brothers Malaw Estate, Majestic Wine Warehouse (01-889 9387), £4.77.

1981 Santa Digna Cabernet Sauvignon, Miguel Torres, Chile, The Wine Gallery (01-475 2565), £4.

1981 Cabernet Sauvignon, Rossmount Estate, Thresher (07073 28244), £4.99.

New books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week: A Path From Rome, autobiography, by Anthony Kenny (Stogwick & Jackson, £15).

Art Beyond the Gallery in Early Twentieth-Century England, by Richard Cork (Yale, £40).

Delusions, by Arnold Wesker (Cape, £12.50).

Good Best Inside the Bankruptcy Business, by Stephen Aris (Andre Deutsch, £9.95).

Lady Lashmore, A Wartime Diary, by Joan Wyndham (Heinemann, £9.95).

Scottish Gaelic, The Woman Behind the Irish Renaissance, by Mary Lou Kohlsaat (Andre Deutsch, £12.50).

Rome: The Biography of a City, by Christopher Hibbert (Viking, £14.95).

The Book Book, by Anthony Bond (Cape, £9.95).

Metals of a City, by Nikolaus Pevsner and Priscilla Metcalfe (Viking, £2.95).

The Stories of Katherine Mansfield, definitive edition, edited by Anthony Alpers (Oxford, £17.50).

Roads

Wales and West AS: Roadworks at several locations between North Corwen and Oswestry involving temporary traffic lights and delays at Llanelwyl and Chirk (24 hours).

A361: Resurfacing work between Barnstaple and Bampton; temporary traffic lights operating at Old Convent.

The North AI (M): Lane closures on either side of the bridge at Cutham Mundeville interchange.

On the M6: Lane closures on both carriageways between junction 20 (M56) and junction 21 (Warrington), in preparation for resurfacing programme.

Scotland A92: City of Aberdeen Water main work between North Doniside Rd and Parkway along South Rd; lane closures on Doniside Rd; lane closures on South Rd; lane closures on Doniside Rd; lane closures on South Rd.

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The papers

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Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will persist to the West of Britain with a depression becoming slow moving over Scandinavia; a cold front will move S across N. and central areas today.

6 am to midnight
London, SE, central S, SW England, East Angles, Midlands, S Wales: Mainly dry with sunny periods; wind light; max temp 14C (57F).

E, NW, central N, NE England, N Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Bright at first becoming cloudy with some rain, brighter again later; wind W, max temp 12C (54F).

Channel Isles: Dry with sunny periods; wind NE moderate becoming light; max temp 11C (52F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Bright at first becoming cloudy with some rain, brighter again later; wind W, max temp 12C (54F).

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray, Perth, NE, NW Scotland: Cloudy, drizzle, or rain, becoming a little brighter with wintry showers; wind NW moderate increasing to fresh or strong; temp 8C (46F).

Orkney, Shetlands: Sunny intervals and frequent wintry showers; wind NW strong; max temp 8C (46F).

Rain at first in the S, otherwise wintry showers and sunny intervals; cold with widespread light frost.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind N moderate; S moderate or fresh; fair; visibility good; sea moderate becoming rough. Irish Sea: Wind variable light becoming NW fresh or strong; rain later; visibility good; sea slight becoming rough.

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,719

